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The Nation.

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1910.

The Week.

In finally deciding to appoint Judge White as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the President has apparently been swayed by the argument that, if a promotion was to be made within the Court itself, the youngest associate justice ought not to be put over the heads of judges of longer service. And there will undeniably be a feeling that a Republican President has at least shown a spirit of fairness in naming a Democrat as Chief Justice. Judge White is highly thought of by both bench and bar as a good lawyer of judicial habit of mind, who has, moreover, a vigorous and incisive intellect, and is master of a clear and forcible style. He has, in general, been reputed one of the "conservative" members of the Court. Of the other judges named to fill vacancies, Mr. Lamar of Georgia seems to have the needed qualifications, while the elevation of Judge Van Devanter from the United States Circuit Court would be unobjectionable were it not for one consideration, but that is serious. Judge Van Devanter sat in the important Standard Oil case which has now gone to the Supreme Court on appeal from the decision in which he joined. Propriety and judicial etiquette would dictate that he should not sit in an appeal from his own decision. If he does not, the great Standard case will be argued before eight judges, who may divide four to four. That would be unfortunate—though, of course, the decree of the lower court would prevail unless set aside.

There is at least one recommendation in the President's message in carrying out which there ought to be no difficulty during the short session of Congress. The reasons in favor of increasing the salaries of United States judges are so strong, the expense involved so utterly insignificant in comparison with the importance of the object to be attained, that the passage of the bill—already pending—should be attainable with very little expenditure of the time of Congress. Anything that raises the average of qualifications in the Federal judiciary is of immeasurable value to the nation. The proposed new scale of salaries—from $9,000 for district judges to $17,500 for the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court—is, of course, far below the income that lawyers of high-class get in their private practice; but either from public spirit, from a taste for judicial work, or from a sense of the honor of the post, many lawyers willingly make a sacrifice of income to accept judicial office.

The Library Committee of the House of Representatives is now reported as intending to recommend a reduction in the size of the House chamber—a sensible project. There will be much more chance of getting a bill passed which provides a method of effecting the change by means of a temporary architectural device than there would be for one which committed the House permanently to the new condition of things. It may be observed, by the way, that the objection which members have entertained in the past to removal of their desk facilities is reduced to comparative insignificance now that each one has a commodious private room in the House Office Building, and also the services of a private secretary. With these adjuncts to the convenient and systematic dispatch of business, the members of our present and future Congresses ought to be able to dispense with the practice of reading at their desks, writing, sorting documents, and clapping their hands for pages to run on their errands.

It has long been known that the Ballinger investigating committee had divided on strictly party lines—even to the point of Mr. Madison, the insurgent Republican, siding with the Democrats but not going to their extreme. Little importance therefore will be attached to the fact that the majority members have completely exonerated the Secretary in their report, of which a summary has just been issued. And the summary itself is too brief to throw any new light on the subject—if, indeed, it is possible to do so in a report, however long. The majority report pronounces Mr. Ballinger "a competent and honorable gentleman, honestly and faithfully performing the duties of his high office with an eye single to the public interest." We have repeatedly stated our own conclusion on this subject, and our reasons for it, and it is needless on the present occasion to say more than that this verdict of the majority members is, in our judgment, inconsistent with a number of facts brought out in the inquiry. The evidence failed to sustain any accusation of corrupt purpose, and indeed the intention to charge such purpose was distinctly disavowed by counsel and by the leading witnesses against Mr. Ballinger; but between this and a certificate of single-minded fidelity to the peculiar trust resting upon the Secretary of the Interior there is a wide gap. To our mind it is quite clear that Mr. Ballinger started out in a spirit of hostility not merely to the special views of men like Pinchot and Garfield, but to the carrying out of a policy for the protection of the public interests to which the Government was distinctly pledged; and in more than one instance he sought, in devious ways, to throw the responsibility of acts inimical to that policy upon other persons—this, however remote from his mind may have been any dishonest purpose.

Philadelphia is making another attempt to lock the empty stable. At the instance of a group of citizens, including Dr. S. Weir Mitchell, suit has been brought against the Mayor, the Comptroller, the Director of Public Works, the Chief of the Bureau of Highways, the Chief of the Division of Street Cleaning, and Edwin H. Vare, alleging conspiracy and fraud in the drafting, awarding, and enforcing of the Vare street-cleaning contract. The annulment of the contract, involving over a million dollars yearly, is asked, and the plea is made that the city be enjoined from making payments to Vare, and that he be required "to account for the sums of money illegally received by him under color of the contract." The contract provides that, upon failure to conform fully to its specifications, large sums may be deducted from the payments, at the absolute discretion of the Director of Public Works. The plaintiffs expect to prove that the contractor has performed less than half of the work required by the

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contract, and that he has made false reports with the connivance of the city officers.

San Francisco successfully tested the working of a municipal referendum in a special election on November 15. Thirty-eight proposed amendments to the city charter, of varying degrees of importance, were submitted to a popular vote. Some forty-five thousand voters, or about 50 per cent. of the electorate, participated, in spite of the fact that there were no offices at stake. Every voter had to discriminate and act separately on each of the thirty-eight proposals. There were no party emblems to help him. Yet there is nothing in the result to indicate that the decision was not arrived at as carefully as it would have been had the amendments been submitted to a representative assembly. Eighteen of the proposals were carried and twenty were rejected. Virtually all the so-called reform proposals were accepted. Among these were the adoption of an effective system of initiative, referendum, and recall, direct nominations for municipal offices, the elimination of all party designations from the ballot, the publication of candidates' statements on the sample ballots, and a step in the direction of the "short ballot" by increasing the length of terms of office to four years and providing that half shall be elected every two years. The franchise rights of the city were safeguarded by the passage of amendments forbidding a monopoly of subways and tunnels and permitting the city to recall a franchise whenever it decided to buy the property of the traction company. Virtually every proposal that would have had the effect of raising salaries was defeated, as was that increasing the powers of the supervisors, and the one which sought to place the library patronage in the hands of the Mayor. Business interests opposed the proposal for the initiative and the recall, and a hard campaign was made against the franchise amendments, but both were carried, although by closer votes than those on most of the other proposals.

The decision of the United States Supreme Court in the Sugar Trust conspiracy case is of very high interest, both theoretically and practically, although it should be stated at once that it does not dispose of the possibility that the indicted directors may still escape under cover of the statute of limitations. What the Supreme Court does decide, in the plainest and most emphatic language, is that a conspiracy continues in being so long as the operations that it sets in motion continue to be performed; that, therefore, the statute of limitations cannot be pleaded on the ground that three years had passed since the conspiracy was entered into, but only on the ground that three years had passed since the acts contemplated or set on foot by the conspiracy had ceased to be done. All this will strike the layman as good common sense; and in the opinion handed down the view is enforced in an interesting way by reference to the analogous case of partnerships:

> *The contract [of partnership] is instantaneous.* The partnership may endure as one and the same partnership for years. A conspiracy is a partnership in criminal purposes. That as such it may have continuation in time is shown by the rule that an overt act of one partner may be the act of all without any agreement especially directed to that act.

Hearty acknowledgment is due to the spirit in which the objections to the bill to create the Rockefeller Foundation have been met in the bill introduced by Senator Gallinger. That the original project was conceived in a spirit of the broadest benevolence and helpfulness there was never any reason to doubt; none the less was it the duty of Congress to guard against the possibilities of objectionable developments of the scheme in the future. This appears to have been, at least in a great measure, accomplished in the new provisions contained in the bill introduced on Monday. While the corporation is to be a self-perpetuating body, the name of any member selected to fill a vacancy must be submitted to the President of the United States, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House, and the presidents of Harvard, Yale, Columbia, Johns Hopkins, and the University of Chicago; approval by a majority of these is necessary to validate the choice. Congress may at any time impose limitations on the objects to be served by the Foundation; its holdings are not to exceed $100,000,000; and the whole concern may be wound up at the end of a hundred years. Not all munificent givers are willing to accept criticism in a fair and generous spirit, and when such an attitude is shown, it is deserving of high praise.

The undergraduate hallucination which assumes an "entire absence of any connection between examination grades and post-collegiate success," receives another blow in the results of a recent investigation at Harvard upon new lines. The criterion of success hitherto employed, namely, the appearance of a name in "Who's Who in America," has been widely objected to, and, accordingly, a new standard has been taken for the latest comparison. As related in a recent number of *Science*, the class of 1894 at Harvard was selected for analysis. Three men, one of whom was Dean Briggs, were asked to select from this class the names of those men who, during their fifteen years since graduation, had achieved distinct success, each judge determining for himself his definition of that term. Twenty-three members of the class were agreed upon as deserving of this recognition by at least two of the three judges. The college records of these men were then compared with those of twenty-three of their classmates chosen at random, and it was found that there were between three and four times as many "A's" among the former as among the latter, the exact figures being 196 and 56.

During the first seven decades of our history—from 1790 to 1860—the population of the United States received an accession of a trifle more than one-third per decade. Then came a fall; but in a sense the rate may be said to have again remained virtually stationary for the three decades from 1860 to 1890. Taking these three decades as a whole, the rate of increase was almost exactly one-fourth per decade, as against the one-third in the previous period; and, if allowance be made for the natural repression of increase caused by the great war, and for the stimulation of increase in the process of recovery from its effects, 25 per cent. per decade may be said to have been the normal rate throughout these thirty years, the actual figures being 22.6 per cent. from 1860 to 1870, 30.1 per cent. from 1870 to 1880, 24.9 per cent. from 1880 to 1890. A still further reason for postulating this approach to uniformity is

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furnished by the well-known defects of the census of 1870. From that rate of one-fourth per decade we passed, in the decade 1890-1900, to a rate of a little more than one-fifth; and the census just completed shows slight change from the one preceding. As against 20.7 in 1890-1900, we have a growth of 21.0 per cent. in 1900-1910. All this relates to "Continental United States"—a term which seems to be coming into use for the continuous region we usually think of as the United States, exclusive of Alaska, although Alaska is part of the American Continent.

Secretary Knox's final decision to grant the request of Italy for the extradition of Porter Charlton, the American who has confessed to the murder of his wife at Lake Como, will give general satisfaction. The public would have been aghast at the spectacle of a detected and avowed murderer walking out of court a free man simply because of a punctilio in diplomatic intercourse, or a petty scruple about the proper interpretation of a treaty. Since it was clear that the United States could not take jurisdiction of the crime, there was nothing for it but to send the man back to the authorities that have the power to inflict due punishment. We can well afford to leave the general status of our extradition treaties with Italy for future negotiation and adjustment; the immediate and pressing duty was obviously to make sure that an acknowledged criminal should not escape justice.

Mr. J. J. Hill's strong words on the question of reciprocal trade between the United States and Canada will attract exceptional attention. Both the international situation from the diplomatic point of view, and the economic situation in virtue of the pressure of high prices, point to progress toward free trade between the two countries. Mr. Hill, if correctly reported, declares entire free trade with Canada to be the logical consequence of the position of Mr. Taft and the Republican leaders; we confess that we are unable to follow the logical thread to that conclusion. But when we get outside the domain of pure logic, the forces making for a sweeping reduction of tariff rates between our country and its northern neighbor are obvious enough.

Secretary Dickinson spent six weeks in the Philippines, and during that time found out, as he states in his report, that the "public expression is very general" in favor of Filipino independence. Mr. Dickinson writes sympathetically of this admitted aspiration of the Filipino people, and evidently hopes that it may be realized in time, but again interposes the official dictum that the thing cannot be done "within the present generation." It will be noted, however, that he gives this opinion with the significant qualification, "if the present policy of control of the Islands by the American people shall continue." That is just the point. If your policy is against independence, and even against encouraging hopes for it and plans for it, and if you are stubborn enough to persist in that policy after it has been shown to be a mistake, you must expect the natural consequences to follow—namely, friction, dislike, and failure. But a change of policy would lead to quite other results.

A British general election is known as "an appeal to the nation," and party leaders always profess great eagerness to find out what the country desires; but at present the tendency seems to be, rather, not to ask the voters what they mean, but to inform them what they must have meant. The numerical result of the election will almost certainly be to leave the strength of parties very nearly what it was before the dissolution. That being so, Mr. Balfour declares for the Conservatives that the popular oracles have given no decisive voice, and that all must go on pretty much as before, until another conference is had or another election. On the other hand, the Liberals assert that they went to the country on the precise issue of the Lords' veto, and have now got a distinct mandate to abolish or at least modify it. They argue that, if the Lords were compelled after last January's election to accept the Budget, on which an appeal was taken to the country, even though the Liberal majority was greatly reduced, they must now swallow the bill limiting their veto, inasmuch as on that issue the country has returned a Liberal or coalition Government to power. The two cases are not, however, precisely alike in form. This time there was no definite rejection of a definite bill by the Lords, on which the judgment of the electors might be taken. It was less a legislative deadlock than a general Constitutional principle which was, as it were, put to popular vote. But on the latter, it is difficult to get a clear and perfectly unmistakable voice from a general election. It is, indeed, fair to argue that the people have spoken in favor of a reform of the House of Lords, and of so limiting its veto power as to give Liberal legislation at least a "fair chance," as the Conservative Mr. F. E. Smith has expressed it; but between that and some root-and-branch method which the Liberal leaders may have in mind there is a wide difference. While, then, the general election will soon be over, it is clear that England's political and parliamentary troubles will not.

Full details of the interpellation in the Reichstag, on the subject of the Emperor's recent divine-right speeches, bear out the interpretation put upon it by the Paris *Temps*, that it was virtually a case of "Revanche Impériale." It certainly looks so, when we turn back to the declarations made to the Reichstag by Chancellor von Bülow in 1908. The promise was then given that the Emperor would, in future, display "that reserve, even in private conversations, which is equally indispensable in the interest of a uniform policy and for the authority of the Crown." Yet on November 26, when the present Chancellor was asked what he proposed to do about the violation of this pledge by the Emperor in his speeches at Königsberg and elsewhere, the carefully prepared official reply was made that it was not the Emperor, but the King of Prussia addressing his subjects in a Prussian province, who was brought under inquiry. Herr Bethmann-Hollweg contended that an absolutist deliverance by King William had nothing to do with the Constitutional law which, he admitted, must govern the Emperor William. This nice division of his Majesty into two persons only angered the Social Democrats, whose spokesman made the tactical mistake of declaring that his party really believed in a republic. The Chancellor made great play with this language of revolution, as he called it; and the net result was to bring the Emperor off triumphantly, and to restore to him that liberty of public utterance which he had apparently renounced two years ago.

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PARTY VITALITY.

Last month's impressive triumph of a political party which was laid out for burial in 1896, buried in 1900, and solemnly commemorated in 1904 and 1908, was a little upsetting to those who had put their trust in the professional skill of undertakers and pall-bearers. The fact that during the fourteen years after the supposed demise no heir appeared to claim the inheritance, or take the place of the departed, might have suggested the possibility of a mistake somewhere. At all events, the entombed Democratic party emerged, and in one day put to flight its enemies. Undaunted by the failure of prophecy in this instance, an English newspaper correspondent thought it worth cable tolls to announce to his American readers the formation of a new British party. He is prudent enough to admit that "this is looking somewhat far ahead," but believes that "many Liberals will be found eager to join the ranks of this new Whig or Centre party."

A look backward over English and American politics shows a pronounced disinclination to create new parties. In England, except for Lord Randolph Churchill's "Fourth Party"—composed of four—and the recently arisen Labor Party, new parties have sprung from Constitutional crises. The Liberal Unionists and the Irish Nationalists were born, however late, of the still-vexed Union; while the persistent Conservatives and Liberals are only the old Tories and Whigs, fitted out with modern ideas and ancient prejudices. On this side of the water, the Populists are the only new organization of national scope which has figured in the political arena since the wedge of slavery cleaved its way through the parties of its time. Here, too, was a Constitutional crisis. The record of Presidential and Congressional campaigns is steadily a record of the Democratic and the Republican parties. Whether the course of the Socialists will more resemble that of the defeated but perennial Prohibitionists, or that of the victorious but vanished Populists, we do not predict. That it will follow a new line, leading to anything approaching even a balance of power, is extremely improbable. And what has been true since 1856, was true before it. Federalists and Republicans became Whigs and Democrats. The American and the Anti-Masonic parties were as lacking in nationality of scope as in attainment of power or in permanence.

There seems to be in the Anglo-Saxon political nature a fine instinct for economy of effort. When old forms become outworn, they are still made to do service as patterns for new ones. Men go on in their old organizations, suffering from their defects and increasing maladjustments, but reluctant to displace them by new ones, until at length the perils of the untried seem lighter than the faults of the familiar. This vitality, not to say stability, of political parties would be impossible if parties were not representative, however unconsciously, of some fundamental distinctions in human nature. To be able to take fairly consistent positions with reference to successive and frequently unrelated questions, with the continuing approval of the great bulk of their members, would be a rare display of skill if it were not rather a result of instinct. Leaders may be governed and may partly govern by intelligence, but most of their followers will act from motives not deeply reasoned. The further fact that parties in Anglo-Saxon politics are virtually limited to two, simplifies the analysis of their relation to the deeper springs of human conduct. Perhaps the old division into the party of order and the party of progress is as valid as any.

Even with this instinctive response of outward organization to inner impulse, one thing is necessary to the securing of stability. That is sufficient elasticity to permit of internal reform, amounting at times to revolution, which shall make a new party unnecessary. It is in this element of party nature that our own recent times have been richest. Look at it as you will, the campaign of 1896 was unique, and was so because the prestige of a great party name was made to serve the purposes of a host of voters who, without it, would have been forced to the enormous undertaking of forming a new party. This may not have been immediately beneficial to the party so roughly made over, but it did two things that parties in enlightened communities will forget again at their peril. It loosened party ties, and it revealed the possibility of swift and radical interior change. From both of these lessons, both parties, and the people they exist to serve, have since profited. Parties are hard to kill, even by their own mistakes. Important new parties arise only as last resorts, and voters will long put up with Hobson's choice. Nevertheless, party vitality, in the long run, is conditioned upon party adaptability. Like any other organism, a party is subject to the blight that besets the unfit. But so long as it is reasonably responsive to public opinion, it will continue, under whatever changes of name and management, to serve successive generations—now as Government, and now as Opposition.

CONCERNING "LAME DUCKS."

The Washington correspondents have had a good deal of fun over "Lame Duck Alley." This is the name they have given to a screened-off corridor in the White House offices, where statesmen who went down in the recent electoral combat may meet to display their wounds and compare notes about their chances for the future. All of them, of course, hope ultimately to reach the President, in order to lay before him their tale of woe, and to extract from him practical sympathy in the shape of a promise that "something will be done" for them after their term of office expires. In this expectation, obviously, lies the significance of the name jocularly given to them. They are "Lame Ducks" in the sense that they have been winged, but hope to preen their plumage again, if not to flap their pinions, in some other office. If the voters won't elect them, perhaps the Executive will appoint them.

The spectacle is not novel. For many years lame ducks have hobbled back to Washington after losing elections. Their numbers are greater after a general *débâcle*, like that of 1890 or 1910, but there are always some to be found. They belong to the political class that "must be taken care of." No system of outdoor relief being available for them, they seize upon the system of appointment to office. They eagerly go over the list of possible vacancies. They scan the roster of commissionerships and judgeships and marshalships, of collectorships and postmasters, feeling themselves fit for any office which they know they badly want. Their sufficient qualification is that they need the job. They are men with "claims"; they regard themselves as too important to be overlooked. Like the financial cripples in Wall Street who have been such great figures that they have to be "help-

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ed," lest their hopeless crash should carry down others, the political lame ducks picture themselves as persons of such consequence that, if they are permanently left out of office, the whole party will be injured and the wheels of government come near stopping altogether. To Senator A, thoughtlessly voted down in his State, it appears incredible that he should ever become a mere private citizen; while Representative B, overwhelmed by an adverse majority, will inevitably entertain gloomy fears for the republic if he has to go to work to earn his living.

We do not say that all the lame ducks who, in past years, have been kindly picked up by compassionate Presidents and put in places in the public service, have been failures. Many of them, however, have been unquestionably. Mentioning no names, we will merely say that some of the ex-Senators who got berths on the Panama Commission were very slightly ornamental and not at all useful. Indeed, in the nature of the case, a lame duck is not, as a rule, fitted to be a valuable public servant. He is thinking more of his hurts, and how to heal them, than of his work. The office which is flung to him, like cold victuals to a tramp, he regards less as a recognition of merit, or even a balm to wounded dignity, than as a mere stop-gap. It is all well enough as a base of campaign, all too small though its supply of the sinews of war may be, but is to be abandoned as soon as he is ready to march for another assault upon a seat in Congress. If appointing officers, therefore, are thinking more of efficiency than of charity, they will, in general, do well to pass the lame ducks by.

It might be fairly argued that filling Federal offices with ex-Congressmen is against at least the spirit of the Constitution. Its framers guarded so far as they well could against the practice of preparing soft berths for injured statesmen to fall into. They made it unlawful, for example, to appoint any member of Congress to any office which had been created or the emoluments of which had been increased during his term of office. That sort of anchor to the windward was forbidden to any Senator or Representative looking forward apprehensively to a popular storm. Against the other thing there is no law and could not well be; but against it there often is a feeling of propriety. It ought not to be supposed that there is any class of men whose disappearance from public life is unthinkable; that there is any rule once an officeholder, always an officeholder. We leave ex-Presidents to shift for themselves, and so we fairly may ex-Congressmen. If it is distinction that the latter crave, they might get it in being pointed to as "extinct volcanoes," to use Disraeli's phrase about discredited men.

We do not deny that there is something pathetic about the lame ducks at Washington. The fondness for office has been said to be "an acquired taste" for most men, but it may be easily cultivated and soon becomes an imperious appetite. It is this, we suppose, and not merely salaries, which drives the sorrowing procession of unappreciated statesmen to the White House to ask for places within the President's gift. They long for official dignity of some sort or other; they still want a handle to their names. But they ought to be warned that, if they do not cease displaying their broken wings to the public, and squawking piteously for aid, they will, indeed, get a public title, but it will be that of membership in the Ancient but Dishonorable Order of Lame Ducks.

SPEAKING OUT ABOUT THE SENATORSHIP.

Woodrow Wilson promised the New Jersey voters that, if elected, he would go upon the plan of "pitiless publicity," in all that related to the interests of the State, and he is living up to his word in the matter of the United States Senatorship. His public statement last Friday opposing ex-Senator Smith can be thought of as an astonishing procedure only in the sense that it is astonishing to find a public man doing after election exactly what before it he said he would do. Gov.-elect Wilson's case stands by itself, but it is perfectly clear. His attitude is not "sprung" upon the people. This very issue was openly debated during his campaign, and both by speech and letter Dr. Wilson took a position which was entirely explicit. He frankly declared that a vote for him meant a vote for party leader; and in his answers to the questions put to him by Mr. Record, he stated in the most positive way that there could be under him no domination by the Smith machine, and that he should feel "forever disgraced" if he submitted to any kind of boss dictation. These assurances undoubtedly won him thousands of votes; and he now stands forth simply as a man living up to his side of the contract. Even if he swore to his own hurt, he changeth not.

In his clear-cut announcement of his position, Dr. Wilson makes it plain that in coming out against Smith he is not speaking as Governor. He is, he admits, going outside of his "legal duties." But, as he grimly remarks, "there are other duties." A question of good faith with the people has arisen, and of "genuine representation" in the Senate, and he, as a citizen, and as a man who has taken upon himself special obligations and responsibilities from which he cannot shrink, does not propose to hold his peace. He has not spoken until it was necessary. Mr. Smith was given every opportunity to take himself out of the Senatorial contest. But since he has refused to do so, Dr. Wilson calls upon the party to compel him to that course. There can be no doubt of the result. James Smith cannot stand up against Woodrow Wilson. Whether knowingly or unwittingly, the Democratic party of New Jersey has elected a real man Governor, and is bound to follow where he leads. A breach with Smith does not matter, even an angry quarrel within the party is of no consequence, compared with the overmastering duty of keeping faith with the people.

It is important to notice precisely what it is that Woodrow Wilson is attacking. In a word, it is an attempt secretly to circumvent the will of the people. Smith has made no open canvass. His own newspaper, the Newark *Star*, has kept as silent as the grave about his candidacy. There has, in fact, been no public advocacy of his election, worth speaking of. Such expressions of opinion as have been made are nearly all against him. But that did not prevent his machine from being put quietly into operation. Every kind of subterranean influence has been exerted, every hidden wire pulled, midnight conferences held, furtive appeals made to this local boss and the other political dealer. The whole Smith campaign has, in fact, been under a blanket; and what Woodrow Wilson has done is to tear the blanket off. The thing can no longer be done in a corner. There must

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now be open discussion, and the Senatorship will be settled in the full light of day. This is the old fashion, and it is the only democratic fashion. As the Prime Minister of France said the other day, in his address at the unveiling of the monument to Jules Ferry, "power in a republic rests, not upon silence, but upon debate."

New Yorkers, as they look across the North River and see the policy of covert scheming for a United States Senatorship shattered by the bold act of Dr. Wilson, cannot avoid a feeling at once of envy and of mortification. For New York is threatened with a Senator by arrangement, not by free and public canvassing of the merits of the different candidates. All the talk of the political quidnuncs in New York is of some one to be "seen," of some interest to be privately conciliated, some secret shuffling of the cards in order to get a winning hand. The friends of certain candidates are, it is true, pressing their claims in public by every fair argument and honorable effort, but it is impossible to be blind to the general expectation that, in the end, everything will be settled by two or three men. They, meanwhile, are pursuing the same plan as James Smith—saying nothing, discussing nothing, proposing no one, but plotting in the dark and assuming the right to impose their will upon the Legislature.

This cannot go on. The people in New York are no more ready than those in New Jersey to see a United States Senator drawn out of a boss's hat. Sooner or later, they simply must get back to the American way of government in the open, a free field and fair play, election of Senators on the principle of the survival of the fittest, not the machine elevation of the unfit.

RAILWAY RATES AND RAILWAY ECONOMIES.

In the current *Outlook*, Mr. Walker D. Hines sets forth temperately and clearly the grounds on which the railways believe themselves justified in asking for higher rates. His fundamental thesis agrees with that of numerous witnesses in the recent inquiry; it is, that a railway must have the opportunity to earn enough to pay interest on its debt and satisfactory dividends on its stock, and, in addition, a surplus large enough to keep the property up to date. Mr. Hines argues that, under present conditions, these purposes cannot be achieved except through a substantial increase in the company's net revenues.

On his own railway, Mr. Hines points out, expenditure for new equipment and betterment, during the fourteen years since the Atchison's reorganization, has averaged $9,000,000 per annum, but in the past five years it has averaged $16,000,000, and the rate of expenditure, he thinks, "will increase continually and progressively." This money can be raised in four ways only—by taking it out of profits, by selling new stock, by issuing bonds with a mortgage on the property, or by borrowing on promissory notes or bonds without a lien on the property. The Atchison's property, Mr. Hines shows, is already mortgaged up. In order to pay for improvements from the surplus, the surplus must be earned, and in order to sell stock or unsecured bonds and notes, such new securities must be offered by a going enterprise, paying "a sufficient dividend on the common stock to make that stock attractive as an investment." This, he believes, necessitates higher railway rates.

The *Outlook* article did not discuss the phase of the question on which Mr. Brandeis insisted in the recent Washington hearing—reduction in working costs through scientific management. This consideration Mr. Hines takes up in a letter to the *Nation* which we print on another page. He does not dispute the reasoning of Mr. Brandeis, but he raises two points which, he believes, would militate against that plan as a complete solution of the financial problem of the railways. One is the fact that, in his judgment, introduction of such a system, in so extended an industry, would be "a matter of years or decades," whereas "the protection of railway credit is of vital, immediate interest." The other is the attitude of organized labor regarding piece-work and the bonus system.

Each of these counter-arguments has force, and calls for careful consideration. The one regarding the position of labor is to some extent borne out by Mr. John Mitchell's interview of last Sunday, declaring that "organized labor is against the premium or bonus system of payment to the workman, because that is designed to speed up the workman beyond the safety line." We doubt, however, if Mr. Mitchell has clearly understood the purpose of the system which he was criticising; which, in reality, is based, not on straining physical capacity to the limit, but on economizing to the uttermost the workman's expenditure of energy. Mr. Ray Morris, in his practical work on "Railroad Administration," explains the feeling of railway labor by "the unfortunate fact" that, in experiments on the basis of individual effort, managers have sometimes tried "to make the exceptional record of one season the minimum standard of the next, so that the only result of brilliant work was to make it progressively harder for the average worker to earn his living." But nothing could possibly be further away than this from intelligent scientific management.

Mr. Hines's argument that the railways cannot safely wait for the complete introduction of a new system of labor supervision has more weight, though, naturally, its conclusiveness depends on the argument from necessity. It must frankly be said that an argument which begins by assuming that a given enterprise must pay a satisfactory dividend on its stock, leads to some logical difficulties. Some companies have been large borrowers on both notes and bonds, when they were paying no dividends at all. Such borrowers, doubtless, have to bid a higher price for money, either through actual rate of interest paid or through discount on the selling price of their new securities; but that is the lot of other business enterprises. Union Pacific was able to raise money enough to buy the Southern Pacific and half of the Northern Pacific's stock, when it was paying only 4 per cent. dividends on its own; yet there are numerous railway men who declare 6 per cent. to be imperative.

We are not arguing for lower dividends, but we do not see how Mr. Hines's full assumption can be accepted unless we recognize a quasi-responsibility on somebody's part to guarantee railway dividends. But, if so, then what is to be the outcome with inefficiently managed or unfavorably located railways? And how are we to escape the paradox of an advance in rates when general business is at its worst—on the ground that the reduced volume of traffic will, at the previous rates, no longer suffice to pay last year's dividend on the company's stock?

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Whatever the conclusion at which the Interstate Commerce Commission arrives in the immediate question of next season's railway rates, it will not do to drop the matter of scientific management. There was great force in this remark by Mr. Henry R. Towne, in his testimony last month at the rate inquiry:

> I am not here to oppose the proposed increase of freight rates. I do not know whether the railroads should have it or not. If they are entitled to it, they ought to have it. But I see this fact, as a manufacturer; that, whereas, in other industries, when we are confronted by too close an approximation of our income to our expenditure, competitive conditions rarely, if ever, permit us to open the interval to the point which will cover a fair profit by putting our prices up. Our competitors will not permit of our doing that. We have to meet the competition, and, therefore, we are compelled to look within for the remedy—not to pass the burden on to others, but to face it ourselves, and find some way of relief. We have done it again and again, successfully, on a great scale in hundreds of thousands of cases; and it is one of the many illustrations of what is commonly understood as a blessing in disguise.

MAKING LAWS FOR AIRSHIPS.

The International Conference on Aerial Navigation has again been in session in Paris after an adjournment on June 28, taken at the request of the British Government, which desired plenty of time to examine the draft of an international convention upon which the Conference had nearly agreed. A summary of that convention, which has just appeared in the London *Times*, bears on its face such evidence of its great importance as to make it plain that other nations besides England will need ample time to consider before giving their adhesion to its provisions. As an instance of international law-making in a new sphere of human activity, it is particularly interesting and will doubtless afford fresh inspiration to those enthusiastic members of the new World-Federation League, whose objective is a Supreme Court of International Justice. It may well be asked if the nations can so readily be got together to discuss questions of aerial navigation, why they cannot be induced to legislate in regard to the excessive armament that is steadily bringing on the financial ruin of Europe.

As bearing on this point, it is of interest that all the participating nations agreed that the aerial transport of explosives, firearms, ammunition, and carrier-birds must be forbidden. An airship of one nation arriving in another's territory will be exempt from duty, passengers' luggage to have the same treatment as if it had arrived by sea or land. If there are, however, any photographic films or negatives on board that have evidently been used on the flight, the visited state has the right to insist on their being developed—this, we presume, with a view to preventing the photographing of fortifications. "Merchandise," says the convention, "can only be carried under special conventions, or in virtue of internal legislation," and wireless is to be used for no other purpose than to secure the airship's safety. Unfortunately, the Belgian Government's proposal that there should be everywhere free trade in airships in order to advance aerial navigation was not accepted.

As to liberty to navigate the air, the following rule was accepted:

> Each of the contracting states shall permit the navigation of the airships of the other contracting states within and above its territory, under reserve of the restrictions necessary to guarantee its own safety and that of the persons and property of its inhabitants.

The restrictions referred to relate chiefly to the question of certain zones, over which, if they are properly indicated in advance, no airship may fly unless compelled by necessity. If an aeroplane is carried by accident or by adverse air conditions over an interdicted zone, it must descend at once and indicate its disability. It must also descend if signalled to from the earth; but just how the airship, which may be 6,000 feet high, can be signalled from earth, and how it can always be made to descend if disabled, are technical points that are not touched upon. Will an airship flying 3,000 feet high be able to make a distress signal as required, which can be seen from the earth? Practice alone can tell; but this question shows clearly that, while it is easy to theorize, the effectiveness of the new rules will after all have to be tested in actual practice a few years hence when the dirigible and the passenger-carrying aeroplanes have reached a greater development than at present. Meanwhile, all captains of airships must be provided with certificates of their government, or of some recognized aeronautical association. Moreover, "a very detailed log must be kept, giving not only the names, nationality, and domicile of all persons on board, but the course, altitude, and all events which may occur during the voyage. Log-books must be preserved for at least two years from the date of the last entry, and must be produced on demand of the authorities."

The question of the nationality of an airship brought up some interesting points. It was decided that it should be determined by the nationality of the owner or by his domicile. It was also voted that:

> A state may require its subject to be at the same time domiciled on its territory, or it may admit domiciled foreigners as well as its subjects. Airships belonging to companies must take the nationality of the state in which their head office is situated. In the case of an airship belonging to several owners, at least two-thirds must be owned by subjects of, or foreigners domiciled in, the state conferring nationality.

The Swiss delegates protested that this article would permit the establishment of many foreign airships in one nation without the supervision of their own, and then drew attention to a suggestion already made by them that no nationality be attributed to airships, but that each airship be compelled to acknowledge a "certain port of register or domicile." This system, the Swiss believe, "offers from the point of view of the safety of states, very superior guarantees to those secured by the system of owner's nationality." But the Swiss proposal was rejected.

Each state is required to furnish in the month of January to every other signatory to the convention a list of all the aircraft to which it has granted nationality in the preceding year. These airships must have distinguishing marks and otherwise conform to the *Règlement de la Circulation Aérienne* which is to be annexed to the convention as finally passed, and will, doubtless, help to elucidate many doubtful points. A distinction is made in the convention between public airships—those employed for civil reasons by states—and military airships. The latter are naturally exempt from certain of the regulations, if manned by men in uniform; but the departure or landing of military airships of one nation in the territory of another is strictly prohibited without the authorization of the visited state. Each state may forbid the passage of any or all military airships over its lands. Finally, the convention in no wise interferes with the liberty of action of belligerents or with the rights and duties

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of neutrals. Non-signatory states may adhere to it by notifying their intention in writing to the French Government. A contracting state may denounce it in the same manner.

FASHIONS IN HOLIDAY BOOKS.

This is the bookmaker's hour. Now, if ever, he expects the public to give him heed. After months of preparation his shop is thrown open. And in many ways, no doubt, well it may be. Outdoing Mohammed, he has made the mountain, and the whole world besides, come to him. Through him East and West, North Pole and Southern Seas, are any reader's for the asking. So are the painters, authors, prophets, martyrs. The completeness of the output is, indeed, a little appalling. There is scarcely a branch of knowledge which is not presented comprehensively, in attractive form and manner. What though at Christmas the oracles are dumb, the publishers are not.

We may mention at the outset some of the features which are more particularly associated with the season. Especially agreeable is the thought which has been given to children's books. The best of the fairy-tales, tales of heroes like Odysseus, Roland, and Samson, and a quantity of other historical matter told pleasantly but without gush, besides photographs of the masterpieces of painting and sculpture, place the elements of culture where a child will not avoid them, and make a valuable foundation for later thought and reading. Under such tutelage, who shall say that the child, become man, will not win back the pleasurable art of allusion, or that he will not cultivate the habit of historical perspective in forming judgments of present needs? A word likewise for the illustrations, both for juveniles and adults—at least, for those illustrations which stand out from the many that are garish and tawdry. Artistic skill in this line has been progressing steadily; so have the processes of mechanical reproduction, and between the two some beautiful creations have resulted. Books of travel, in particular, have come off well, with their lovely bits of the old world; and, in a few instances, we have observed simple photogravures of city scenes almost as artistic as etchings. As to the so-called "handsome editions" with which Christmas is loaded, opinions will differ widely. To us they are, for the most part, overdone, and contrast unfavorably with those true rulings and simple pages of other days. Here, much more than in the less elaborate editions, the designs and color-schemes are of the impressionistic, unstable sort.

In general, the publishers have shown rare ingenuity in trying to meet a great variety of tastes. Part of their zeal, however, seems to us questionable, if not pernicious. "Reading," under ideal conditions, "maketh a full man," but to-day it becomes a weariness to the flesh, even for him who reads but the titles. Publisher vies with publisher. Not only are the old favorites re-issued, but new favorites are created on the spur of the moment. The publishers, no doubt, will tell you that they are carried along by a force stronger than themselves. Like the etiquette which prevents disarmament, for which each nation shouts in turn, suspicion of the other fellow keeps the publisher from his avowed wish to limit himself to a few books each year. Meanwhile, to stand the bombardment, the reading public may well pray for *aes triplex*. True, he who runs may read, and still the running reader is no match to-day for the active publisher.

The latter, in point of fact, recognizes this, and agrees to do your reading for you by furnishing a predigested variety. There never was a time when books of reference were so plentiful. There are even summaries of fiction, the best hundred pages of Plato, of Herbert Spencer. Keeping pace, too, with the specialist, publishers now get out hosts of "series" in which knowledge, cut perpendicularly, athwart, or to order, is easily accessible. If it is true that "he is wise who knows the way to the book-shelves," then wisdom will soon be omniscience. And in this respect—putting conveniently upon record the doings of man, his every thought and feeling, however trivial—the publishers of the present time have wrought heroically. Yet there comes the distressing feeling that this policy is partly mistaken. Does the reader read more the more his reading is done for him? That may be an Irish question, but it fairly presents the situation. The chances are, we believe, that the modern way is weakening to the public's mental fabric. When men had to go distances to borrow books and had to make their own summaries, they remembered what they read, if only in self-defence. The tendency nowadays is to get knowledge literally at hand, and to get it permanently any farther is thought unnecessary. In the hour of need, we append the words of Francis Bacon on these very matters:

> Read not to contradict and confute, nor to believe and take for granted, nor to find talk and discourse, but to weigh and consider.

RECENT GERMAN POETRY.

Compiling and editing poetical anthologies is a task to which German men of letters devote themselves with enthusiastic industry. Even the younger generation has given us a number of lyrical collections of merit, and has roused interest in the poetry of other countries. Karl Henckell, one of the leaders of those militant secessionists who made their début in the "Moderne Dichter-Charaktere" twenty-five years ago, gave us a loose-leaf collection of the world's lyrics some years later, and now his name appears on the cover of a book called "Weltlyrik" (München: Die Lese), which contains some of the choicest specimens of lyric verse written outside of Germany and which, with the exception of one of Shakespeare's sonnets, is limited to the last century. The beautiful little volume bears the subtitle "Ein Lebenskreis in Nachdichtungen," defining the scope and character of the work. There are selections from Shakespeare, Rossetti, Swinburne, Poe, Whitman, Holger Drachmann, Pushkin, Mjereshkowski, Maria Konopnicka, Ada Negri, and others, among them fifteen Frenchmen, beginning with de Musset and ending with the singer of Bruges, the mysterious George Rodenbach. The keynote of the work is struck in the editor's prologue, a hymn to life, and for epilogue he has appropriately chosen the hymn to the sun from "Chantecler."

The translations are really "Nachdichtungen," namely, poetical reproductions, and as such have great merit. Among the best are the lines on love from Whitman's "Mystic Trumpeter," Poe's "Eldorado," Emilio Praga's "Night Prayer," Asnyk's "Futile Plaint," and Maupassant's poem on the wild geese. Almost all of Henckell's versions of Verlaine are distinguished by a rare spontaneity, but in rendering Sully Prudhomme's "Broken Vase," he has been less successful. As a whole, the book is a remarkable achievement. It reflects sometimes the more sordid phases of human existence, but the only selection which might have been omitted is that from Aristide Bruant, though as a translation it is a veritable *tour de force*.

When Ernst Freiherr von Wolzogen, who is now lecturing in America on the

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German drama and the past thirty years of German letters, abandoned the enterprise to which he had devoted a number of years, the *Überbrettl*, he little dreamed that the idea of transplanting upon German soil the gripping pathos and audacious humor of the French *chansons du cabaret* would survive longer in books than on the stage. Maximilian Bern, the compiler and editor of poetical anthologies for the Reclam edition, collected specimens of German poetry approaching that *genre* in spirit and form, and called his book "Die zehnte Muse" (imported by G. E. Stechert & Co.). A second and enlarged edition of that work has just appeared, showing that there is a demand for *Überbrettl* poetry wherever German is sung and recited. The book differs from most poetical anthologies in the absence of the hackneyed sentimental and sweetly inane. Among the groups into which it is divided, satire covers the largest space, next comes erotic poetry, and next forty pages of poems more or less directly implying criticism of the present social order. There are also fables, parables, tramp tunes, and romances of reality, and the lines of demarcation are remarkably well observed. The selections cover three centuries of German poetry and revive the memory of long forgotten poets, introducing to the readers a number of obscure singers whose work deserves recognition. For purposes of recitation, this book is likely to be without a peer in the German book market.

Carl Hauptmann has published an enlarged edition of the quaint volume of prose and verse entitled "Aus meinem Tagebuch" (München: Georg D. W. Callwey), which illustrates the elusive originality of the author. It is a book to be taken up at quiet moments, if one is to sense its spiritual unity. Hauptmann's interests embrace the universe. He has sympathy with the exalted aspirations and pity for the criminal cravings of mankind. He looks upon the turmoil of the workaday world with eyes that seek to fathom its meaning. He listens to Bach and Beethoven and illumines what was vague or obscure. There are lyrics in the book insinuatingly tuneful; there are philosophical reflections, simply worded, but full of suggestions; there are passing glances at men of letters—Schiller, Turgenev, Zola, Liliencron, surprising for their insight; there are interpretations of artists, Böcklin, Meunier, Segantini. The book is appropriately dedicated to Anna Teichmüller, a woman composer of Germany, who has made a number of his lyrics into songs, with rare ability.

Among the poets that now and then spring from the plain people of Germany, Johanna Ambrosius has perhaps risen to undue prominence, while Christian Wagner has been comparatively neglected. For this son of the same Suavian soil that brought forth the much-beloved Schiller is a personality of greater artistic distinction and spiritual import than that facile poetess of the obvious and the commonplace. Christian Wagner does not avoid the homely topics of everyday life; he does not seek his subjects in remote realms of thought; yet his songs strike a new note. For he has the gift of extracting the essence of poetry from the life about him and of coining images and moulding phrases of individual beauty. The ten volumes that contain his work are the fascinating record of a spiritual and artistic development. With the exception of a few readers of *Poet-Lore* who may have seen translations of his poems by Miss Thomas, Christian Wagner is unknown to American students of German poetry. Yet there are few poets of contemporary Germany capable of making a wider appeal than the peasant-poet of Warmbrunn.

The slim volume which has lately come from the pen of this septuagenarian is entitled "Späte Garben" (München: Georg Müller), and its contents and quality are typical of his work. A series of charming flower-songs introduce the collection. From his intimate knowledge of the flora of his home, Wagner weaves fanciful myths about the daphne, the nettle, the water-iris, the evening-primrose, and even about the quitch grass growing among the wheat. He sings of planting, hoeing, and digging potatoes, of the simple beliefs and customs of his people. He does not echo the well-worn rhymes of an unlimited procession of poetical ancestors, but writes from direct and personal impression. There are a score of poems reminiscent of an Italian journey which he was able to make through the generosity of a literary society.

Otto Sattler is a German-American of whose poetical gifts the little volume entitled "Stille und Sturm" (Lemcke & Buechner) gives fair promise. He treats a variety of motives and skilfully adapts his manner to the matter before him. He sings of the joy of life and love and of the Wanderlust which has taken him, like so many of his people, around the world; he writes of the daily drudgery in factory and workshop, among the whirr and the roar of machinery. He pictures the sordidness of poverty and strikes notes of stirring fervor in uttering his faith in a better future for all mankind. Of the longer poems in prose the one called "New York" commands attention. Among the specimens of a Whitmanesque style that have appeared in Germany within the last two decades, this poem compares well with those of Johannes Schlaf and Alfons Paquet. The meaning which the image of the city holds for the author and the hopeful inference which he draws from it are expressed with a strength and a dignity that reconcile us for some pages of a rather trite sentimentalism.

The posthumous volume of "Poetische Auslese," by Hugo Andriessen (Beaver, Pa.), awakens memories of a time when a wave of radicalism swept over the German element of the United States and found organs to lend it voice in Karl Heinzen's *Pionier*, published in Boston; the *Arme Teufel*, edited by Robert Reitzel of Detroit, and the *Freidenker*, which alone has survived and is still sent out from Milwaukee. For in those weeklies could always be found poems by the latest author, voicing the gospel of free thought, taking up the cause of some political movement and spreading the message of evolution and a monistic philosophy. This book contains many specimens of that didacticism, but the editors of the volume have wisely included poems unburdened by any message and a number of clever translations from Swinburne, Adelaide Proctor, Longfellow, Charles Wolfe, William Bedford, Lyall, and Villon.

Another little book by a German-American, Dr. W. L. Rosenberg, is pompously entitled "An der Weltenwende" (Cleveland: Windsor Publishing Co.). He significantly uses as dedication a translation of "The Under-Dog," by "Barker," presumably Elsa Barker. The poems evoke dramatic scenes of a Ghetto pogrom, of miners' strikes, and of sweatshop slavery. Some hark back to the abolitionist movement, and one brings the book singularly up to date; it is the poem entitled "Roosevelt," of which every stanza begins with the line "Nimm dich in Acht"—Take care. But the feature that relieves the monotony of the *Tendenz* note struck too insistently and incessantly is the translations from William Morris, John Hay, and Victor Hugo.

A. von Ende.

Correspondence.

THE SHAPE OF THE SHAKESPEAREAN STAGE.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: Students of the Elizabethan drama owe a considerable debt to V. E. Albright's monograph on "The Shakespearean Stage" (Columbia University Studies in English, 1909). It will hardly be thought derogatory of his admirable work to mention a detail in which his sketches of the "typical Shakespearean stage" seem likely to convey misapprehension.

Mr. Albright's plates represent a stage not square, but converging to a relatively sharp point in front. The only authority for this conception is found in a rough sketch of a stage of some kind, printed on the title page of "The Tragedy of Messallina," in 1640. It is by no means clear that this can be relied upon as a faithful picture of conditions in the public theatres of that day. It is certainly vague and not improbably fanciful. Moreover, it bears a very strong resemblance to the stage portrayed on the title-page of the Latin play

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of "Roxana" (1632), which was acted in the hall of Trinity College, Cambridge, and by reason of its language and general academic character cannot ever have been produced in the London popular theatres. "Messallina" itself, acted by the company of the King's Revels, is not precisely a popular play; and it is possible that the stage portrayed in both dramas is meant to be that of the academic hall rather than of the public theatre. The employment of the word "Theator," quoted by Mr. Albright on pp. 44, 45, does not contradict such an assumption.

In any case, however, a comparison of the "Roxana" and "Messallina" sketches (reproduced in Prof. Baker's "Development of Shakespeare as a Dramatist," p. 270), with Mr. Albright's ideal drawing, will show that the side lines of the stage converge relatively very little in the two former. It seems to me even doubtful whether any convergence at all was intended. The shortening of the front line may be merely the device of an awkward draughtsman, whereby he is enabled to represent, from a direct front view, the two side lines of the stage, which naturally would be invisible if allowed to remain entirely parallel to each other and to the line of vision.

Even if we admit, however, that the "Messallina" picture proves at least one English public stage in 1640 to have been somewhat narrower in front than at the back, no such assumption concerning the Shakespearean stage of a half century earlier seems allowable. The well-known De Witt drawing of the Swan Theatre, dated 1596, shows a perfectly square stage; and De Witt's picture, untrustworthy though it may be in details, is certainly better authority for sixteenth-century practice in regard to so fundamental a matter than the equally vague and much later frontispiece to "Messallina."

Fortunately, it is not necessary to depend altogether for one's decision upon the balancing of these rough and contradictory sketches. The question seems to be settled, as far as the procedure of 1600 is concerned, by the details given in Henslowe's contract for the building of the Fortune Theatre, January 8, 1599, 1600. Many of the features in the construction of this building, it should be remembered, were avowedly copied from Shakespeare's Globe; and here a rectangular stage, virtually square, is certainly described. In length it is to be forty-three feet; in breadth, it is to extend to the middle of the "yarde," or pit; *i. e.*, forty feet, since the entire width of the house is named as eighty.

In one place, indeed, Mr. Albright admits incidentally that the "outer stage may have been square in its earlier history, and converging in its later" (p. 78). Since we have good evidence that it was square in Shakespeare's time, and only the most dubious reason to believe that it may have been converging forty years later, is it not a mistake to represent "the typical Shakespearean stage" as converging to such a degree that it is almost triangular?

The matter seems one of decided importance, because several features of Elizabethan dramatic presentation can hardly be explained in connection with the stage which Mr. Albright depicts. A ruling principle in the construction of Elizabethan theatres was always, apparently, the provision of generous stage room. The Fortune of Henslowe and Alleyn, previously mentioned, allotted more than one-fourth of the entire ground area to stage and tiring-house. Performers on Mr. Albright's stage would, however, be excessively cramped, and there would be no place at all tenable by the spectators, who, as we know, frequently occupied stools on the stage. The narrow front portion would be quite useless for real action, and all the exciting scenes would have to be presented toward the extreme rear of the outer platform or on the inner stage under the balcony—a very obvious disadvantage for the audience. Moreover, a glance at Mr. Albright's sketch will show how entirely unsuited this useless forward point would be for the seating of auditors. Half a dozen gallants and citizens, stationed as the stage directions in the prologue to "The Knight of the Burning Pestle" indicate, would hide the entire stage from all the spectators in the pit. On the other hand, auditors placed farther back on Mr. Albright's stage must be put either between the inner and outer stages—an impossible position—or else directly in the way of the doors by which actors entered and left the outer stage.

It seems clear, therefore, that the Shakespearean stage must have been square, or even more probably, as in the case of the Fortune, rectangular, with the longer side abutting upon the pit. Only under such conditions could a large number of actors and a group of spectators have been accommodated simultaneously without occasioning the unendurable discomfort of the rest of the audience.

C. F. Tucker Brooke.

Yale University, December 6.

"SCIENTIFIC MANAGEMENT" FOR RAILWAYS.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: Many railroad officers have attempted to show that the public interest requires a marked improvement in railroad credit, and that to accomplish such improvement there must be substantial increases in net revenue. However, some who concede these propositions assert that such increases of net revenue ought not to be accomplished through increases in rates, but through increased efficiency of operation in accordance with the theories recently advanced by witnesses before the Interstate Commerce Commission. The support of this view rests largely upon the claims of Mr. Harrington Emerson, one of the witnesses before the commission.

Mr. Emerson made it plain that his criticism of inefficiency related not merely to the railroads, but, generally speaking, to all industrial activity, much of which he declared was "disgracefully" inefficient. When asked about the difference between railroads and other industries, Mr. Emerson stated that the railroads "are fully up to, if not ahead of, the average ability, and probably ahead of what they were some years ago." I believe that any impartial investigation will show a higher average efficiency on the part of railroads as a whole than on the part of other industries as a whole.

Bearing in mind that the improvement of railroad credit is a matter of vital interest to the public, it would seem contrary to the public's own interest for the government to prevent increases in rates and thereby obstruct the protection of railroad credit, merely because the railroads have not yet realized an ideal standard of efficiency far beyond that realized by well-managed industries in general.

Moreover, the supporters of the theories urged upon the commission made it very clear that those theories would revolutionize existing industrial methods. It is apparent that such a revolution would be a matter of time even in a single shop, and probably would be a matter of years or decades with respect to any extended industry. But the protection of railroad credit is of vital, immediate interest to the public and cannot be postponed indefinitely to await the success of an industrial revolution; it is a question which demands favorable attention now according to the general conditions and standards which prevail.

The theories of these experts involve the plan of securing greater efficiency from the individual laborer by means of a bonus system, and this is a system to which union labor is understood to be very much opposed. For example, one railroad company attempted to apply this bonus system to the operation of its locomotives, but the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, one of the most intelligent labor unions in the country, protested with such effect that the attempt was given up. Apparently trade unionism must be revolutionized before its coöperation can be secured in putting any such theories into general effect.

The fullest discussion of the question of industrial efficiency is to be welcomed and will tend to improve efficiency in all enterprises, both railroad and non-railroad, and perhaps will promote coöperation on the part of union labor. But the present situation cannot properly await the future working out of these problems. There is an imperative public necessity that the railroads should have adequate credit, and this credit is on the point of being seriously impaired unless additional net revenue can be had without delay. Under such conditions the protection of the public's interests ought not to be postponed for an indefinite period to await the revolutionizing of industrial methods or trade-union principles either as to the railroads or as to enterprises generally.

Walker D. Hines.

New York, December 9.

LIFE AT THE SORBONNE.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: The student from an American college entering the Sorbonne discovers immediately a difference in methods, even in the formalities of registration, which indicates that the notions of education held in Paris are not those of Harvard or Princeton. Having in mind the infinite precautions taken by the American college to insure his doing a little work from time to time, he is surprised to find that the French authorities take it for granted that he will work of his own accord, and that, in fact, he has come to the Sorbonne for that express purpose. He can follow twenty courses, if he likes; or—amusing as it sounds—none at all. Absolutely nothing is officially required of him beyond the production of a diploma of secondary, or, if he prefers, of higher, instruction. Entrance examinations do not exist. If he wishes to take a de-

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gree, he may present himself for final examinations after a period of years which varies according to the degree. On the other hand, after receiving his card of admission, he may cast one glance at the stately court and dome of the Sorbonne, and then depart forever. He will not be pursued by summonses from the dean, nor will his parents be notified of his "undue absence from university exercises."

Hearing of such a situation, a certain number of American undergraduates will inevitably exclaim "What a cinch!" and immediately begin to think seriously of transferring the seat of their education to Paris. But they would find the institution less agreeable than they had expected. For there exists at the Sorbonne no trace of the varied social activity which is the real attraction at American colleges. There being no dormitories or commons, the students live where they please, or where they can. The university is not concerned with them outside the lecture rooms. There is a total lack of the patriarchal spirit which manifests itself, at times so painfully for the undergraduate, through the American "committee on discipline." And what makes this attitude possible is precisely the complete absence of the clubs, fraternities, "proms," and football games which crowd the American student's days. In France they would never believe that we pay athletic coaches higher salaries than full professors, nor that the coaches sometimes lodge complaints when "university work" is allowed to encroach on time consecrated to football practice.

Whatever may be the motives which send an American boy to college, the chances are against their being connected with the inside of books. Custom, fashion, desire for amusement, a hundred various ambitions, petty but absorbing, all may have something to do with it. But in France the situation is much simpler; there is no use in going to a university for anything but study, because study is the only thing to be had there. Of course, there are numbers of young men from the provinces who come to the University of Paris, and especially to the faculties of law and medicine, solely for the sake of a few years in the metropolis. But just because of the extreme liberty allowed them, they do not trouble the professors by attending any of the courses, and consequently have as little influence on the schools as any of the other thousands of sightseers in Paris who never heard of Robert Sorbon.

It may be objected that the social side of American universities has its importance, and that a boy brought up in a sort of scholastic monastery would be a difficult type to live with. But the French are a proof of the fact that the social element may be neglected in universities without its being affected outside. They have both kinds of education, social and intellectual. They simply do not attempt to impose both of them on the university. That institution they consider as intended solely for intellectual training. The rest comes naturally, in the course of everyday life. And it is just this singleness of purpose, together with the higher regard accorded to things of the mind by the people in general, which gives the French university its air of seriousness, of efficiency, of accomplishment. This air is bound to strike the American as one of violent contrast with the institutions of his own land, where study slips apologetically and all but unnoticed through the roaring years of college life.

HERBERT JONES.

Paris, November 16.

PORTSMOUTH NAVY YARD.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: In the *Nation* of November 24 appears in an editorial on "Navy Yard Reform" the following statement concerning the Portsmouth Navy Yard: "The waterway to the yard is so bad that no battleship is docked there, and even a gunboat approaches it with great caution." As a reader of the *Nation* who puts great faith in its statements of fact, I beg leave to correct this extraordinary misstatement. Such battleships as the Maine, Wisconsin, and New Hampshire have repeatedly come up to the Portsmouth Yard under their own steam. The Maine and Wisconsin are lying at the yard piers at the present time. The armored cruisers Tennessee and Montana (502 feet long) were at the yard a few weeks ago, and the North Carolina, of the same class, was docked last Monday. One of the officers of the North Carolina told me that she came up to the yard at a speed of ten knots under her own steam and without the yard pilot. It would be possible to give further facts showing how the Portsmouth Navy Yard is now entirely and easily accessible to the largest men-of-war.

ALFRED GOODING.

Portsmouth, N. H., December 6.

[Our information was taken from an apparently uncontradicted statement made in Congress by a member of the House Naval Committee in an appeal to Congress to vote no more money for the Portsmouth and other yards.—ED. THE NATION.]

Literature.

HOLIDAY BOOKS.—II.

A pretty story, "A Christmas Mystery," by William J. Locke, has been illustrated for the season by Blendon Campbell and printed as a slender gift book. (Lane, 75 cents net.) Another short story pleasantly decked out for the season is "The Green Door," by Mrs. Wilkins-Freeman, with illustrations by Mary R. Bassett. (Moffat, Yard, 75 cents net.) Of older vintage is a translation of "Aucassin and Nicolette," by Eugene Mason, for which Maxwell Armfield has prepared several colored illustrations in antique style. (Dutton, 80 cents net.)

Gordon Home's sixteen full-page illustrations in color, together with a few line-drawings in the text, do, as he desires, give "The Romance of London." The color-plates are, with one or two exceptions, clearer and cleaner than common, and thus please the eye without detracting from the desired effect. The text deals with the history of the buildings whose exteriors and interiors are portrayed. (Macmillan, $1 net.)

As a companion volume to his "London City," James S. Ogilvy has taken a wider sweep in his "Relics and Memorials of London Town." The colors of the fifty plates by the author are not, to our taste, as agreeable as in the slighter volume by Gordon Home, but the scope is much larger. The text also is much more inclusive and is interspersed with quotations and anecdotes. (Dutton, $5 net.)

As in almost all the illustrated volumes published by Adam & Charles Black, the printing of the colored plates in "St. Petersburg" is clear and attractive. The pictures are from paintings by F. de Haenen, and cover pretty well the buildings of the city, and the types of life in it. The text is written by G. Dobson. (Macmillan, $2.50 net.)

Unusual in form, with its leather covers and clasps, and rich in contents, is the new volume of the Mediæval Library, in which Miss Edith Rickert has gathered together a host of "Ancient English Christmas Carols," ranging from the thirteenth to the seventeenth century, with a few modern songs in an appendix. A translation of obsolete words at the bottom of the pages, with a glossary at the end of the volume, makes the reading of the old texts easy; and, to a degree that will not affect the quaint manner of the original, the language has been modernized here and there in the texts themselves. The spelling, where the rhythm is not altered thereby, and the punctuation are regularly modernized, and this, we hold, is the only sensible way of dealing with such material for readers as distinguished from students. A number of photogravures from old illuminated missals are of real charm. Altogether, the book is one of the most attractive of an originally conceived and well executed series. (Duffield, $3.25 net.)

Edward Sandford Martin's "Luxury of Children" has been put out with illustrations by Sarah S. Stilwell. (Harper, $1.50.)

A unique memorial of a city is Louis J. Stillmann's "The Vanished Ruin Era," which consists of a series of photographs of San Francisco as it appeared after the earthquake, together with descriptive poems corresponding to the pictures. (Paul Elder, $2.50.)

"A Book of Hospitalities and a Record of Guests" is novel in design and happy in execution. After a "foreword" (this, for preface, is the only blot on the book) on Old House Mottoes, by Arthur Guiterman, we pass to a series of original epigrams by the same writer, some of which might serve for actual inscriptions, while others, such as those on the Master and on the Dog, might be a trifle awkward to inscribe, but are apt as mottoes. Many of these couplets and quatrains have a pretty touch, as may be seen in these three on the Gate, the Books, and the Andirons, respectively:

Now lift my Latch, and readily I swing
To bid thee come where Courtesy is King.
My Hinges creak,—for that I cannot teach
Their tongues to welcome thee in plainer Speech.

Thy Host loves well, when Nights are wild or cold,
To pore upon our Pages manifold.
We Books are Friends of his,—so, prithee, make
His Friends thy Friends, for Friendship's Sake.

Let Love endure. Thy Heart should feel no Shame
Like us to show the Marks of ancient Flame.

There are blank pages to be filled by the record of guests. (Paul Elder, $1.50.)

A. L. Coburn has taken a score of photographs of scenes in New York, and these have been printed in photogravure under his personal supervision at the Ballantyne Press. They form a romantic, and, in part, even beautiful record of the streets and bridges and wharves of the city. H. G. Wells contributes an introductory note, full of admiration for the vigor of New York

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life, and for the marvels of her architecture:

I will confess an unqualified admiration for the sky-scraper—given the New York air to reveal it clearly to its summit against the sky. The Flat-Iron I visited again and again during my brief stay in New York, that I might see it at every phase in the bright round of the New York day and night. Mr. Coburn has given it between wintry trees, and in its graver mood, but I liked it best in the pellucid evening time, when the warm reflections of the sundown mingle with the onset of the livid lights within. To suggest that, the most exquisite of all New York's daily cycle of effects, Mr. Coburn has given a picture of the Singer tower at twilight, in which I verily believe his plate has caught something of the exhilaration of the air.

Mr. Wells thinks that these photographs will still be admired a hundred years from now; we are content to recommend them for the present. (Brentano's, $6.)

There was a time when few travellers penetrated the remote places of the peninsula of Brittany. Aliens were chiefly English residents on the fringe of coast, attracted by the moderate cost of living. Increasing facilities of travel, and, for the motorist, the lure of good roads have opened the land to invasion—a land picturesque, with an atmosphere of sombre romance, where the cult of Celtic saints still persists, where much of mediæval and even Druidical days still lingers. Scientists explain in vain the stones of Carnac. Every Breton peasant, whose church still tolerates a reverence for stones and springs, knows that it is St. Corneille who saved Carnac from destruction by turning the pagan army into stone; and the fisherman on the wind-swept headland knows as well that the blast at his hut door is the knock of a Druid soul pleading for Christian burial. It is into this world of witchery and romance that George Wharton Edwards invites us in "Brittany and the Bretons"—into the world of Merlin, of stout Du Guesclin, and sturdy Anne of Brittany, of gray villages of one tone, of plain, uninteresting churches, peopled by a patriotic race, faithful to religion and law. The volume is a companion to the author's "Holland of To-day," and is illustrated by somewhat sombre pictures which, however, accord well with his subject—a land of sinister beauty, a people whose life is bound up with the tragedies of the sea. The illustrations are handsomely reproduced in color. (Moffat, Yard, $6 net.)

Harrison Fisher has for a gift-book this year "A Garden of Girls," the title of which, together with Mr. Fisher's well-known manner, sufficiently explains the nature of the drawings reproduced. (Dodd, Mead, $3.50 net.) Another volume by Mr. Fisher is "Pictures in Color." (Scribner, $3.50 net.)

Among the special illustrated books from Boston may be mentioned Trowbridge's "Darius Green and His Flying Machine," with pictures by Wallace Goldsmith, and Mrs. Wiggin's "Rebecca," with a frontispiece in color by F. C. Yohn and reproductions of photographs taken from the play. (Houghton, 50 cents net and $1.50.)

Howard Chandler Christy offers his instalment of sentiment in something above a hundred illustrations for "The Lady of the Lake." (Bobbs-Merrill, $3.)

A "Christmas Treasury of Song and Verse" has been compiled by Temple Scott from sources ancient and modern. The book is neatly printed. (Baker & Taylor, $1.25 net.)

ENGLISH DRAMA.

The Cambridge History of English Literature. Edited by A. W. Ward and A. R. Waller. Vols. V and VI. The Drama to 1642. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. $2.50 each.

The volumes before us, which, together, form a history of the English drama from its beginnings down to the closing of the theatres by the Puritan Parliament, are decidedly the most notable that have yet appeared in this series. The contributors are nearly all authorities of the first rank—English, German, and American—in the field of the drama, and the result is a more exhaustive record of present knowledge of the subject than is to be found in any other work. One observes, moreover, a progressive improvement in the supervision of the general editors. There is no serious conflict of statement from chapter to chapter, and cross-references are here given for the first time to any considerable extent. Dr. Ward has himself contributed two valuable chapters on subjects which his past researches have fitted him peculiarly to deal with—namely, The Origins of English Drama and Some Political and Social Aspects of the Later Elizabethan and Earlier Stewart Period.

Among the chapters which are devoted to the different branches of the drama as distinguished from individual authors we note in Prof. W. Creizenach's treatment of the miracle-plays and moralities a masterly survey, in brief compass, of the early religious drama. He remarks of the original purpose of the miracle-plays—viz., to constitute a sort of living picture-book of sacred history at a time when so few could read the Bible itself—that it explains why nothing was left in them to be done behind the scenes or told by messengers; and this observation is significant not only for the mediæval drama, but for its descendant, the modern drama, generally. He also lays due stress on the degree to which the interests of the priesthood color the miracle-plays, as in the case of Cain, whose unwillingness to pay his religious dues seemed to these ecclesiastical authors a much more heinous offence than the killing of his brother. We observe that in the "Elckerlijc-Everyman" controversy Professor Creizenach accepts the English play rather than the Dutch as the original—a position which is hardly tenable since the recent thorough examination of the problem by Professors Manly and Wood. Prof. J. W. Cunliffe's discussion of early English tragedy, which follows immediately after, is noteworthy, especially for new material on the sources and mutual relations of the plays of this group, the debt of which to Seneca he has done much to set in its true light. The weightiest contribution, however, to the study of a particular branch of the drama is unquestionably that which F. S. Boas has devoted to the university plays. We have here a full and careful account of university activity in the drama, including plays in both Latin and English, for the whole period down to 1642. Mr. Boas's history of these academic efforts, which, notwithstanding their obvious limitations, were not without influence on the popular stage, fills a real want in the literature of the English drama, and, besides, contains much material with which even specialists are not familiar. We would call attention particularly to the summary which is here given of Griffin Higgs's "True and faithfull relation of the risinge and fall of Thomas Tucker, Prince of Alba Fortunata, etc.," the manuscript of which is preserved in the library of St. John's College at Oxford. This manuscript, which has hitherto been printed only in part, lets us more completely behind the scenes of the collegiate theatre, as Mr. Boas remarks, than any other document in existence. The "Relation" is an account of a series of festivities which lasted from All Saints' Eve, 1607, to the first Sunday in the following Lent. It is curious to observe how strong a hold even at this late date the allegory of the old moralities had on the academic playwright.

In his chapter on the Masque and Pastoral, the Rev. Ronald Bayne is treading in less obscure paths. Possessing, however, a distinct charm of style, he has known how to convey to his own pages something of the picturesqueness of his material, as the authors of certain standard treatises on these species of drama have failed to do. The sympathy with which he has entered into his subject has led him to exaggerate, perhaps, the literary value of Jonson's masques. In any event, the different estimate which is put on these productions by Professor Thorndike and himself marks a stronger discord than anything else that we have observed in the present volumes.

Of the chapters which deal with the individual dramatists, the best are those on Marlowe and Kyd by G. Gregory Smith, Middleton and Rowley by Arthur Symons, and Massinger by Emil Koeppel. Indeed, the pages devoted to Marlowe and Middleton offer the most penetrating criticism that is to be found in the two volumes. Especially to be commended is Professor Smith's insistence in regard to Marlowe's influence on the Elizabethan drama as one of poetic quality rather than of dramatic workmanship, and his view that the "history play" does not in any essential respect stand apart from the accepted dramatic categories. On the other hand, Professor Koeppel's treatment of Massinger is marked by lucid exposition and an easy mastery. But we

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may say, in general, that, with one conspicuous exception, the various dramatists are discussed in a satisfactory manner. Unfortunately this exception, Shakespeare, is the most important of all, and one cannot but feel a keen disappointment that the principal figure not only in the Elizabethan drama, but in the whole range of our literature, should have found such inadequate treatment in a work of this authority. The discussion of the poems is not open to serious objection, but in the chapter on Shakespeare's Life and Plays, we have Professor Saintsbury at his worst. He exhibits the familiar disparagement of the results of modern research at the outset and the consequent attitude of barren negation, which is sufficiently typified in the sentence, "We do not know whether he ever went to school." Only by his reluctance to accept the results and methods of recent research can we explain the author's rejection of the customary chronological method in the discussion of Shakespeare's plays in favor of the confused scheme which he actually adopts and which he would have no trouble in copyrighting as his own—that is to say, first, the plays mentioned by Meres in the "Palladis Tamia" (with separation of the history plays from the rest), next, "Pericles," and, then, the remaining plays according to "the usual folio order, with one single exception, that of 'The Tempest.'" As a matter of fact, even as regards the main categories—comedies, histories and tragedies—this is not the only instance in which the folio order is departed from, and within these categories that order is not observed at all, the plays on classical themes being discussed first and then the great tragedies. We may note, in passing, that Professor Saintsbury is inclined to take "Timon of Athens" as entirely Shakespearean, and "Julius Cæsar" as written "about the same time" as the other Roman plays. In view of the attitude of mind which we have described, no one will be surprised to learn that in the Tabular Conspectus, which is supposed to give the "facts" of Shakespeare's life, no use whatever is made of Prof. C. W. Wallace's discoveries or that this same Conspectus ascribes the first quarto of "Titus Andronicus" to 1595 (instead of 1594), and dates the old play, "King Leir," 1605, simply because it was printed in that year. One could, of course, forgive these deficiencies of Professor Saintsbury's, if they were offset by merits of literary criticism or the verve of style which lends interest to his recent address on "The Grand Style in Shakespeare," but we fail to discern these qualities in his present contribution.

With regard to the Rev. Ernest Walder's chapter on the Text of Shakespeare, we have only space to remark that it is, in the main, an acceptable piece of work, although not entirely up to date. For example, the writer repeats the common opinion as to the surreptitious origin of the quartos, without mentioning the grave doubts as regards a number of them which have been raised by A. W. Pollard's admirable treatise, "Shakespeare Folios and Quartos." This book, to be sure, is included in the bibliography, but no use is made of it in the text. Nor do we find here any allusion to the theory of Greg and Pollard concerning the printing in 1619 of certain of the quartos which bear earlier dates—a theory which has received convincing confirmation from the investigations of W. J. Neidig, published in the current number of *Modern Philology*.

The bibliographies which accompany the volumes are full and valuable. We hope, however, that the brief estimates of individual books which they contain here and there will be more numerous in future volumes. Indeed, this ought to be made a regular feature of the work.

CURRENT FICTION.

The Guillotine Club, and Other Stories. By S. Weir Mitchell. New York: The Century Co.

Admirers of Dr. Mitchell's fiction will not find these tales less effective than their predecessors. Among other accomplishments he has caught the knack of the short story, so far as it need be caught in order to win a considerable audience. He has, in fact, an eye for the picturesque scene, and the stageable, if not dramatic, episode. And he is always intelligible. No doubt this latter quality, the fact that he is in the habit of leaving nothing to the ingenuity of his readers, has had something to do with his popular success. Magazine readers do not want to be bothered with subtleties of plot or style. Dr. Mitchell writes always like a promising beginner. His wires are visible, his puppets move to the prompter's lips. The persons, for example, in the story of "The Guillotine Club" have little or no objective reality. They are called into action by the necessity of the plot which the author has invented, and which remains his master. There is no illusion; the whole thing is artificial, entertaining only as an idea. But Dr. Mitchell's acceptability seems to be independent even of novelty in idea. The outworn superstition about thirteen at table figures in two of these four stories; their freshness consists merely in a minor ingenuity of application. But we suppose the secret of Dr. Mitchell's undoubted hold upon a public of his own is an open one. It lies a little, no doubt, in the glamour that surrounds the writer who is eminent outside of literature, but chiefly in the very genuine and human interest in life and character which shines through work that might otherwise be judged artificial.

Westover of Wanalah. By George Cary Eggleston. Boston: Lothrop, Lee & Shepard Co.

This is a story of old Virginia before the war, a Virginia whose hospitality and life Mr. Eggleston is well qualified to describe. His hero, a young plantation owner of good family, through a case of mistaken identity, is arrested and convicted of the crime of breaking into a girls' school, but happily, just as he is about to go to prison, the real culprit is discovered. The incident, however, has the effect of breaking up Westover's love affair and sending him to the mountains, where Judy Peters, a feminine political boss of the district—a character, by the way, that the author has used before—helps to restore his self-respect. The author gives a satisfying picture of the chivalrous respect of the Southern gentleman for his womankind, but the people of "Westover of Wanalah" are a little bit untrue—they are almost too perfect, all save Judy Peters, kindly, shrewd, rugged, and strong, influencing all with whom she comes in contact.

Romance of Imperial Rome. By Elizabeth W. Champney. With 60 photogravures and other illustrations. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons.

Upon a broad and solid foundation of familiarity with the literature, art, and history of ancient Rome, the author of "Romance of French Abbeys," "Romance of Italian Villas," etc., has reared another of her charming fabrics—not so light and airy as to incur the charge of flimsiness, and not so heavy as to be burdened by its own weight. In this collection of stories, the tender and tragically ending love-tale of Sulpicia is enough of a story easily to stand alone as fiction, and has the added attraction for cultivated people of introducing the flesh-and-blood characters of Albius Tibullus and his Delia, Horace, Virgil, Mæcenas, Glycera, and a villain or two. "The Song of the Sirens," another pleasing attempt to make Imperial Romans live, calls up the names of Augustus and Livia, Agrippa and Vipsania, Tiberius and the Princess Julia, and other members of the court circle, among them Ovid, and invokes the sympathy of the reader for the notorious daughter of the Emperor. "The Villa of Unhappy Love" is a story of the Flavian reign; "A Dog of Britain" treats of Druids and Dryads and Love. "The Nameless Pedestal" tells of the punishment of a Vestal, and "The Necklace of Vesta" brings back the times of Alaric and Attila. "The Flight of Apollo" and "The Loves of Horace" are more in the vein of the essay, and are not so convincing, especially the latter. The photogravures are excellent, all of the illustra-

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tions are appropriate and few of them hackneyed, the book is well printed, and the scenic background is one that brings delight to the heart of those who have seen the west coast of Italy. In a word, "Romance of Imperial Rome" is an uncommonly successful attempt to convey instruction and entertainment in history, literature, and art, under the guise of fiction.

The Unlived Life of Little Mary Ellen. By Ruth McEnery Stuart. Indianapolis: The Bobbs-Merrill Co.

The scene of this drama is Simpkinsville. Its central figure is Mary Ellen Williams, tragic heroine of "the terrible, terrible weddin' thet never came off," but that left her "a pore little half-demented woman," who believed herself to be Mrs. Bradley. Dr. Jenkins, Dr. Alexander, and the Rev. Mr. Binney form a conspicuous group of strongly individualized men, as level-headed as they are soft-hearted. Dr. Jenkins has written up the case, as far as it has gone at the time of the opening of the present account, and called it "A Psychological Impossibility." As he observes, "a heap of impossible things have turned out to be facts—facts that had to be argued backward from." Then there are old 'Pollo and Milly, the negro servants of Mary Ellen, and, more dimly drawn, the sisters of the women's prayer-meeting. But all these are nothing to the deserted woman in comparison with the great wax doll which, intended for her namesake niece, reaches her, and, regarded by her as alive, is at once her sole interest in life. Only the most tactful handling could save such a plot from fantastic unreality, but the straightforward way in which the characters concerned face what they cannot attempt to solve, as being "one o' the mysteries that it's hard to unravel," holds a spectator to a serious attitude.

Ashton-Kirk, Investigator. By John T. McIntyre. Philadelphia: The Penn Publishing Co.

This detective story is in the main well worked out, and is worth reading. At the instance of a friend, Ashton-Kirk begins first to seek the secret of the fear that is haunting Allan Morris, the betrothed of Edyth Vale. Scarcely is he engaged upon this, when Hume, a curio dealer, at No. 478 Chrystie Place, is murdered. All evidence points either to an Italian musician, or more directly to Allan Morris; and Miss Vale, too, it is found, had been at Hume's shop at the time of the murder. The dead man, as Ashton-Kirk has established, had been the cause of Morris's strange actions toward Miss Vale. She now tries to balk the investigator, and so, as she thinks, to protect Morris, who has disappeared. Ashton-Kirk goes beyond the apparently patent clues and fixes the crime upon the real murderer.

The book is patterned a bit too obviously after the manner of Sir Conan Doyle, and the ending, both in the melodramatic death of the criminal and in the dénouement of the love story, is rather trite. The detective's part, however, is a well-knit piece of reasoning, and furnishes an engaging problem for the reader.

The Smiling Road. By Hanna Rion. New York: Edward J. Clode.

This novel can scarcely be said to have a plot, the thread of story barely serving to hold together the short episodical sketches called chapters. This want of unity is a serious defect in a volume which has some merit otherwise; for with all the multiplicity of characters, the author draws in her pictures of rural life with a reasonably truthful touch. "Lady" Trevelyan's smiling cheerfulness lightens up the sordidness of "the road," just as Mrs. Wiggs's philosophy did for the Cabbage Patch.

GENERAL WOLFE.

The Life and Letters of James Wolfe. By Beckles Willson. New York: Dodd, Mead & Co. $4 net.

A new life of James Wolfe, promising materials never before published, should certainly arouse interest. We are disappointed, however, at finding that Mr. Willson throws little additional light on Wolfe's career or character. The collection of letters, for the most part to his parents, were known to, and cited largely by, Wolfe's earlier biographer, Wright, from whom Parkman later culled out the passages which are most significant. Of documents of any other kind, Mr. Willson seems to have made no discovery, and strangely enough he makes no mention of Parkman. We take it that he has embodied in his book more thoroughly than has been done before the correspondence of Wolfe, though we are left in doubt as to whether or not the publication is complete. But though we have here not many fresh facts of importance, we are glad to have the book as it is. Wright's life has been long out of print, and says little of Wolfe, except while he appears as an American figure. Mr. Willson arranges the letters so that Wolfe tells his own story, for the most part to his much-loved mother, from his boyhood to the moment when he stepped out upon the Plains of Abraham—the unstudied record of thoughts, feelings, and events set down for those with whom he stood closely bound through sympathy and affection. Mr. Willson has lived in the house which Wolfe knew as a boy, and has faithfully followed his footsteps through camp and field. His notes and narrative connecting the letters are vivid and give all needful illustration. The portraits and views are numerous and full of value.

Hanoverian England was, no doubt, a bad place for men, but there was no place better—certainly not France under Louis Quinze; nor Germany distracted, corrupt, and enslaved; nor decadent Spain. In England, at least, lay the hope for better things, and it is fortunate that the enthusiasm of a hero so potent was enlisted to make her great. His service began early; as a boy of fifteen he carried the colors. He was in the thick of it at Dettingen and Culloden. Though close at hand, it was his fortune to escape Fontenoy; but at Laffeldt he was again at the front, receiving a ball in his body. He was plainly a type of the young soldiers who, in our time, could apply a torpedo to the side of an "Albemarle," or "carry a message to Garcia." He was put at the head of a regiment, when barely out of his teens, but, quiet now prevailing, he was set to garrison duty, for the most part in Scotland. To a temper so energetic this seemed a misfortune, but it gave opportunity for finer qualities than the alertness and rude courage for which he had become noted. In the disordered Highlands, which had fought for the Pretender, his task was now to subject and reconcile. He accomplished both, compelling recognition of the new and better order, and at the same time winning affection. He was probably the first to perceive the military value of the Highland spirit, as he was soon after the first to marshal Highlanders for English conquests. He made his regiment, through rigid discipline, the best in the army, but the men loved him. Meantime the lieutenant-general, his father, a worthy veteran of the Marlborough epoch, and his invalid mother, in London or in their country-house on Blackheath, received at short intervals the dutiful, manly letters which it is our high privilege still to possess. We see in them a young man amiable, industrious, high-purposed. He has no tendencies to vice. He employs his leisure under the best masters he can find in studying mathematics, Latin, and military science. He reads the Greek historians in French translations. He becomes perfect in fencing and horsemanship. Fearing, as he writes his brother, that his life in camp and guard-house may make a ruffian of him, he learns dancing, that he may be fit for the society of the other sex. He is far from being insensible to the charm of literature. At Blackheath his father was next neighbor to the Earl of Chesterfield, and Chesterfield's son, to whom the famous Letters were written, was Wolfe's acquaintance. There is no touch in Wolfe of worldly-wise philosophy or loose morals, but passages occur in the letters marked by a high sensibility and a grace of style which, had conditions

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been different, might have placed him among wits and poets.

His promotion had been rapid, but his impatient spirit felt that he was held back, and he thought it hard that he should be bound to a garrison when the field lay open, or at least he might perfect himself by study and travel on the Continent. His superiors, however, perhaps with the connivance of his parents, kept him in the island. His service was needed there, and, besides, the risk was great that a spirited young officer, unemployed on the Continent, might be allured to foreign colors. He could procure a respite for only a few months, which he spent in Paris, diligently studying and observing, though he found time for society, was presented at court, and chatted in her boudoir with the Marquise de Pompadour.

He had matured into a tall, spare man, red-haired, with face not unattractive though hardly denoting the power that was in him. He had still to go through a period of drudgery, now general in England, during which his letters give proof of good-hearted sensitiveness as to the bad conditions. He is horrified at the state of Portsmouth, the great rendezvous of the fleet and army, which was indeed a sink of evil; and when sent with troops to put down riots of the Gloucestershire weavers, lets his mother know how his heart bleeds over the wrongs and sufferings of the poor men whose disorder he is set to repress. He hears at last of the outbreak of the Seven Years' War with a joy which to those who favor peace at any price seems savage. His time had now come; he was but thirty, he certainly had not waited long. Well-accomplished and fully experienced, he was sent as a quartermaster-general to play a part in the expedition to Rochefort, a dismal failure. Wolfe, however, initiated a plan which would have led to success but for the untimely caution of his senile superiors. "Vous avez manqué un beau coup," said the French prisoners, admitting the certainty of an English triumph had matters been pressed. But Wolfe at least had not lacked, and his desert was recognized. Pitt was now at the front, who made Wolfe a brigadier in the expedition to capture Louisburg. When a slow official remonstrated with the old King, and urged that Wolfe was mad, "Mad is he," said George II with a twinkle of Lincolnian wit, "then I wish he would bite some of the other generals." Louisburg fell, and he was the chief instrument of its downfall, and now we reach the exploit which was for the glory of Wolfe at once the acme and the eclipse. No page of history is better known than the story of the victory of Quebec. The results have been vast and are still accruing, and as all English-speaking men must believe, have been widely beneficent. The hero built better than he knew. In his fight he was not thinking much of the welfare of mankind in the large. In his limitation he was merely a patriot, hardly recognizing that "above all nations is humanity." His motive, so passionately felt, was to save to England her leadership—a motive narrow, perhaps, but nevertheless noble. To the duty he saw his devotedness was complete.

Nothing has done more to endear the memory of Wolfe to men and women of feeling than the beautiful tradition that while awaiting in the boat the moment for scaling the cliff, he relieved the suspense by repeating to his officers Gray's "Elegy," declaring that he would rather be its author than to win the victory for which he hoped. We are glad to note that Mr. Willson regards this example of fine sensibility as well authenticated, and gives ample reason for his conclusion. The story comes from Robison, a midshipman in the expedition, who afterwards became professor of natural philosophy at Edinburgh, and has generally been accepted by those best qualified to judge. To our mind, a strong proof of its genuineness is the complete unlikelihood that such a tale would ever be invented. What could be less congruous with the usual mood of a soldier at such a crisis or with the particular environment of the occasion! The reader of these letters can see that Wolfe was quite capable of such a demonstration. For what he did and for what he was James Wolfe was a hero too great to be allowed to fade in our memories, and his record, we believe, may best be studied in this book.

The American Commonwealth. By James Bryce. New edition, completely revised throughout, with additional chapters. 2 vols. New York: The Macmillan Co. $4 net.

The substantive changes in this long-awaited revision of Mr. Bryce's work, though not such as to swell greatly the bulk of the volumes, are in themselves considerable. In the first volume, supplementary notes have been added to the chapters on Merits of the Federal System, The Working of State Governments, and State Politics; while the Hon. Seth Low has quite made over his American View of Municipal Government in the United States, to take account of the most recent developments. Four new chapters, entitled, respectively, The Latest Phase of Immigration, Further Reflections on the Negro Problem, The New Transmarine Dominions, and Further Observations on the Universities, together with a note on recent legislation regarding primaries, have been added to the second volume. A comparison page by page with the previous edition shows, in addition, almost innumerable minor alterations in the text, chiefly by way of bringing the survey fully abreast of the latest practice, or of replacing earlier illustrations by later and better ones. In these particulars the chapters on State and local government have, naturally, been the most amended. Statistics of all kinds, of course, have been brought up to date. In the appendix to Volume I the sketch of the federal system of the English universities, together with specimens of provisions in State constitutions limiting the taxing and borrowing powers, have been dropped, and extended extracts from the Constitution of Oklahoma inserted in their place.

There can be no need of pointing out again the qualities which have made Mr. Bryce's work a classic. Its consummate union of philosophical insight and comprehensive observation leaves it still, after the lapse of twenty-five years, a political and social survey of incomparable excellence. Happily, too, for us, and pleasurably, we cannot but believe, for him, Mr. Bryce is still hopeful. In controverted political issues of the moment he does not, indeed, permit himself to express opinions; but the ugly revelations of public and private dishonesty, the rude shattering of many an idol and ideal, have not shaken his faith in the inherent soundness of the American state, or kept him from finding a fountain where others wail "mirage." If the defects of the electoral or party systems, of Congressional committee action, or of the Speakership are still apparent, they have at least, in his judgment, grown no greater. The vast expansion of Federal powers, in the effort to cope with great national exigencies, still savors little of "usurpation" or of fatal warping of the Federal system. State legislation, though still unconscionably bulky and ill-digested, is nevertheless more orderly, sensible, and progressive than it was; while the efficiency and purity of municipal government show decided gains.

Of the new chapters, those on immigration and the negro will doubtless seem to many the most important, dealing, as they do, with matters in regard to which almost everybody to-day feels himself entitled to an opinion; and they are certainly excellent examples of Mr. Bryce's method and intellectual habit. Recognizing fully the difficulty of assimilating the diverse social elements which have of late poured in upon us from southern and eastern Europe, and the burden which the civilization of these low-grade foreigners lays upon every community to which they come, Mr. Bryce nevertheless apprehends no permanent danger from their presence. They are not coming as fast as they were, and our social digestion is not yet impaired; and although much remains to be done to help the immigrant adjust himself to his new surroundings, the efforts of churches, schools, settlements, and other agencies win from Mr. Bryce distinct commendation. For the negro,

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too, there is increasing hope, not merely through the elevation of the race to a higher plane of industrial efficiency, but also through the subsidence of race antagonism among the better class of Southern whites, and the recognition that it is the superior, as well as the inferior, race that suffers under a régime of injustice, violence, or neglect. Just as the best thought of America came at last, after long years, to a repudiation of slavery, why, asks Mr. Bryce, may it not in time come also to a removal of grounds of friction between the races under freedom? Doubtless such an inquiry does not sound the lowest depths of the fundamental problem of race; but it has at least the merit of holding up a rational moral ideal to be striven for, and an ideal, too, consciously pursued to-day by the men and women, North and South, who have studied the negro most attentively and impartially.

Mr. Bryce is not blind to the momentous growth of American democracy from primitive to complicated conditions, nor to the difficult problems of government and administration which such development involves. His power, however, and the permanent usefulness of his writing lie in the sureness with which he distinguishes fundamental political values in a community of rapid change. It has been said of "The American Commonwealth" that, beyond any book ever written about us, it has revealed America to itself; and for a book which can do that there should be, as unquestionably there will be, warm welcome to a new lease of life.

A Documentary History of American Industrial Society. Edited by John R. Commons, Ulrich B. Phillips, Eugene A. Gilmore, Helen L. Sumner, and John B. Andrews. Vols. III, IV, and Vol. IV, Supplement. Labor Conspiracy Cases, 1806-1842; Selected, collated, and edited by John R. Commons, Professor of Political Economy, University of Wisconsin, and Eugene A. Gilmore, Professor of Law, University of Wisconsin. Cleveland: The Arthur H. Clark Co.

These three volumes assemble in convenient compass the records of early labor conspiracy cases, some of which —and these the more important ones— were previously not generally accessible. At the outset, these volumes present a sharp contrast to their two predecessors ("Plantation and Frontier," noticed in the *Nation*, October 13), in the use made of legal monuments to decipher industrial changes. In the two earlier volumes, the statute book and court records were conspicuous by their very infrequent citation: these later volumes contain judicial records exclusively, if we except the important prefatory essay. It is to be hoped that we may have at some time a full history of the doctrine of conspiracy as applied to trade disputes, with an appraisal of the validity or invalidity of the doctrine as a solvent of economic ills; but nothing of the sort is attempted in the volumes under review.

These judicial records are employed by Professor Commons in his introductory study as indicative of the early relationships between industrial classes, and particularly as casting light upon the origin of a self-conscious laboring class whose interests conflict with those of the capitalist-employer. The substance of this study was embodied in an article from Mr. Commons's pen which appeared in the *Quarterly Journal of Economics* for November, 1909. The history of the shoe-making industry alone is here canvassed, but inasmuch as nine of the seventeen conspiracy cases prior to 1842 had occurred among shoemakers, Mr. Commons contends that the emergence of class distinctions in this industry is "interpretative," if not typical (Vol. III, p. 58). This is plausible, even probable, but confirmatory evidence upon the point is desirable.

The gist of Mr. Commons's contention is that, in the United States at least, "it is the extension of markets more than the technique of production that determines the origin of industrial classes, their form of organization, their political and industrial policies, and demands, and their fate" (Vol. III, p. 28). The Marxian doctrine that the proletariat is created by the introduction of masses of machine appliances for production fares badly in the boot and shoe industry. It stumbles over the awkward fact that "even as late as 1851, all of the labor in the manufacture of shoes was hand labor" (Vol. III, p. 51), whereas long before 1851, the organized laboring class had appeared in this industrial field.

The first, or colonial, period of industry is made by Mr. Commons to extend to the decade of the twenties in the last century. He relies rather too much upon a single instance of a shoemakers' guild in 1648 in the colony of Massachusetts Bay, as affording a picture of the conditions of handicraft manufactures for a period of one hundred and fifty years. Whatever the incorporators of this guild desired to obtain, it is certain that the itinerant cobbler was not "suppressed" throughout this period. On the other hand, the first conspiracy case, the Philadelphia cordwainers (1806), presents a picture of the situation in the trade about the opening of the nineteenth century. The master commonly booked orders in his shop, and put out the work among his journeymen. An increase in wages was rather easily shifted upon the purchaser in an enhanced price for the wares. But when some small masters began to "stock up" with standard sizes, and even to a greater degree when stocks of low-grade shoes began to be sold in the public market for what they would bring, the easy control of price which had unified the interests of master and journeymen was threatened.

The widening of the market effected the final loss of control over prices (except for custom made shoes), by the small master. As enterprising shoe merchants sought for customers at a distance, these merchants found it necessary to quote prices that would not yield the customary wages to the cordwainers. The merchants, moreover, as they obtained their supplies eventually from widely separate sources, could regard with relative impunity the protests entered at first by both the small masters and their journeymen in any one particular locality. The small master who sided at first with the journeymen was forced to align himself with the large merchant-capitalists. Strikes followed, and the self-conscious labor organization was speedily evolved in the shoe industry.

A single comment may suffice, upon this really brilliant essay in industrial history. The extension of the market ought not to be regarded as an inert, half-automatic manifestation of impersonal economic energy—a sort of "force not ourselves that makes for production." The extension of markets is not merely a reflex of bettered means of communication, for this widening of the market was clearly in evidence before railways and canals had been built. It is an indication of enterprise, of a search for economizing expedients, for the savings of large-scale production. Moreover the comfortable torpidity of the old régime of the shop, where the customer was forced to pay an advanced price at the virtual dictate of the small master, egged on by his journeymen, was too invertebrate an industrial organism to offer very effective resistance to a virile competitor. It is true that the impersonality of modern industrial conditions has brought with it a menace in depressing some levels of work and life below what is socially or morally tolerable. It has also created the class antagonisms of to-day. But it has its advantageous side, as well as its defects, and chief among its excellences is its preferring the interest of the consumer to the lethargy of antiquated methods of production.

Peace or War East of Baikal? By E. J. Harrison. Twenty-three chapters, with illustrations and maps. Yokohama: Kelly & Walsh.

This book, the work of a journalist whose extended residence in the Far East somewhat qualifies him for his task, aims at giving the present status and future prospects of both Russia and Japan in China. The main question

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treated is whether present conventional restrictions and treaty obligations can be faithfully observed; for upon this depends the prevention of a tumultuous change in the map of the Far East.

The first half of the book deals with the Russian situation; and that country is pictured as at present mainly engaged in working out the problem how to retain her Far Eastern possessions. The various schemes, by means of which Russia came into her Far Eastern heritage, are fully discussed in a style aggressive but incisive and lucid, though with more of a journalistic than a literary quality. The writer thinks that Russia's encroachment upon Manchuria opened up the whole of her Far Eastern empire to attack by removing the Manchurian screen. Due emphasis is laid on the significance of the fact that, in spite of great energy and expense in promoting various immigration schemes, Russia's East Asian empire is still very sparsely populated. Some interesting stories are given of Russian press censorship, one of which shows the punishment of an editor for publishing the report of an affair in which an officer wounded a comrade in trying to shoot a cap from his head for a wager. Numerous instances of Chinese contravention of agreements with Russia are cited to show that, since the war with Japan, China has regarded Russia as the under dog. The author insists on the assertion that it is a conviction of Russia that China and Japan have a plot for the undoing of Russia; hence the willingness of Russia, for the present, to curry favor with Japan. This is alleged to be the "yellow peril" from a Russian point of view; and the two chapters describing the position of Russia as that of the man who feels it better to "agree with thine adversary quickly while thou art in the way with him," are among the most interesting in the book.

In the section dealing with Japan in South Manchuria, extended notice is taken of the progress of the invader along all modern lines in the region occupied. The conviction is expressed that, though Japan is simply building upon the foundations laid by Russia, she is admirably avoiding much of Russia's misdirected use of energy. Port Arthur, rising amid tons of expended gold and rivers of human blood, is aptly described as a monument of human heroism and human folly. The important questions leading up to Secretary Knox's proposal for the neutralization of Manchurian railways are next considered, and the growth of an increasing ill-feeling towards the United States noted. The ground is taken that self-interest will insure peace on the Pacific. The chapters dealing with Japan at home give a full account of recent political and social progress. In discussing Japanese customs one notices a few errors: as, for example, the statement that Japanese school children are obliged to bow daily before the portrait of the Emperor. This act of veneration is restricted to national holidays and other national occasions, the Imperial picture at other times being veiled in the sacred alcove reserved for it. In summing up the Japanese character, Mr. Harrison wisely avoids the sweeping generalizations often indulged in by writers and publicists less familiar with the people, while he corrects a good many false impressions that have gained currency abroad.

It would be a mistake to regard the book as chiefly taken up with political disquisitions; for these are largely subordinated to topographical and ethnological descriptions at once instructive and picturesque. The writer has a good working knowledge of both the Russian and Japanese languages, which lends zest to some interesting details. The value of the work is enhanced by its having as appendices all the important conventions and treaties, with notes, relevant to the Far East, as well as good maps of the countries treated.

Democracy and the Party System in the United States, A Study in Extra-Constitutional Government. By M. Ostrogorski. New York: The Macmillan Co. $1.75 net.

This volume is an abridged edition of the second volume of Ostrogorski's "Democracy and the Organization of Political Parties" (reviewed in the *Nation* April 30, 1903). In bulk it has been reduced about one-half, and its contents have been brought up to date. One new chapter on extra-constitutional government in the legislative assemblies has been added. The general verdict upon the original work, that it is admirable upon the historical, critical, and analytical side, but weak in its suggestions for political reconstruction, may be safely reaffirmed. Some of the earlier proposals, such as the removal of the Presidency from popular election, have disappeared. But the insistence upon temporary, single-issue organizations to replace permanent political party organizations is continued.

The new material embodied in the present volume is traceable, first, to the recent emphasis given to "predatory wealth" in control of government; and secondly, to the variety of expedients now mooted for the regulation of primaries, conventions, and elections. The question of direct primaries is discussed with fairness and ability. The agitation in their favor is "likely to do service in the fight against the machine" (p. 348); but "neither the sanguine hopes of the reformers nor the fears of the bosses have been entirely justified . . . As a rule, the machine still makes up the slate" (p. 346). It is rather curious that in his inventory of patents taken out to improve political machinery, there is no mention of the Short-Ballot movement, particularly as Ostrogorski declares that the "first and greatest reform in the elective system is the curtailment of the system itself, the reduction of the number of elective offices to a minimum" (p. 444).

The new chapter upon extra-constitutional government in Congress and the State Legislatures is rather disappointing. In recounting the recent results of "Insurgency" in the House, the author falls into a rather notable error in saying that "the Speaker has been, at last, in March, 1910, deprived of his power to make up the committees of the House" (p. 286, *note*). It was only the Rules Committee which was taken out of the Speaker's power. The Speaker is excluded from membership upon this committee, and the committee itself is elected by the House. The remaining committees the Speaker appoints as hitherto.

JUVENILE BOOKS—II.

A genuine volume of sport is "Walter Camp's Book of Football" (Century); it makes appeal to the best in the athlete, it describes the technicalities, history, ethics, and personalities of the game. In these days of various inventions, there are many channels of amusement and profit. Francis A. Collins's "The Boys' Book of Model Aeroplanes" (Century), by its very title, suggests the service of the young aviator in solving the problem of flying. The text is explanatory and historical. "The Romance of the Ship" (Lippincott), by E. Keble Chatterton, and "The Romance of Modern Astronomy" (Lippincott), by Hector Macpherson, jr., belong to an excellent series which will please boys of a scientific turn of mind. They are lively in their narrative and authoritative in their facts. The volumes are attractively bound. W. Dwight Burroughs's "The Wonderland of Stamps" (Stokes) describes the designs of the most important stamps in the world, grouping them according to their characteristic symbols.

We are glad to be able to mention four books of plays for amateurs, Constance D'Arcy Mackay's "The House of the Heart" (Holt) is more literary than the others, the author being particularly interested in the morality form. The title piece was given by the New York Educational Theatre for Children and Young People. "Harper's Book of Little Plays" consists of six, by various hands, modelled along conventional school lines. It is designedly educational in purpose. Marguerita Merington's "Holiday Plays" (Duffield) are five in number, covering the festivals of the year. The characters and costumes are mostly historical. In view of the Dickens Centenary, H. B. Browne's "Short Plays from Dickens" (Scribner) will be of unusual interest.

"Where the Wind Blows" (Dutton) consists of ten fairy-tales retold by Katharine Pyle; their sources are from Japanese, Russian, Norse, German, Irish, Greek, and Indian. The copyright shows that the book was first written in 1902. Each

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chapter begins through the initiative of the wind. Abbie Farwell Brown's "The Christmas Angel" (Houghton), with illustrations by Reginald Birch, should find warm welcome; the story is touching and effective in the same way as "The Christmas Carol." Eden Phillpotts has written "The Flint Heart" (Dutton), a mixture of Dartmoor and Lewis Carroll. Those who are unfortunate enough to hold the unlucky stone called the Flint Heart lose all gentleness and compassion. Disaster follows upon disaster. "Finella in Fairyland" (Houghton) is by Demetra Kenneth Brown, who has told very prettily and simply how a naughty girl was made good through the ministrations of flower fairies and of butterflies. Clifton Johnson has turned his hand to many forms of editing; readers will remember his Tree Fairy Series. This year he is editing for Baker & Taylor "Golden Books for Children," the first two being "The Arabian Nights" and "Robin Hood." We like the general scope of the series, with the introductions which give each story a setting, but we should be better pleased if we were surer of having before us the true versions. We would call attention to a cheaper edition of Barrie's "Peter Pan" (Scribner) with Rackham's delightful color plates, though we must warn the buyer that the story herein contained is not the same as that of the play. "Norse Fairy Tales" (Lippincott), selected and adapted from the translations by Sir G. W. Dasent, is an artistic volume copiously illustrated in color and line by R. L. Knowles. In their original these tales were not intended for children. L. Frank Baum, in "The Emerald City of Oz" (Reilly & Britton), declares that this shall be the last of the "Oz" series; he therefore assembles all of the characters, so enjoyed by children, for their farewell. The first of these books appeared in 1900, and we believe their popularity was due more to the fancifulness of a name, and the oddity of the characters, than to the fact, as the publishers think, that they were "bloodless fairy tales" which "led the way out of the dark ages of Bluebeard books for children." The Rand-McNally Company's edition of Browning's "The Pied Piper of Hamelin" has been effectively illustrated and lettered by Hope Dunlap. The color is very broad, but the conceptions are agreeable, and almost mural in scope. The black and white pages are equally effective.

"Famous Scouts" (Page), by Charles H. L. Johnston, is just the sort of book to please boys, for it is not only by the author of "Famous Cavalry Leaders," but it includes careers of trappers, pioneers, and soldiers of the frontier. It begins with Israel Putnam and ends with Buffalo Bill. A second volume in the Guide to Biography series includes "American Men of Mind," among them philanthropists and reformers, painters and sculptors, and so on. It is difficult to regard this work by Burton E. Stevenson (Baker & Taylor) as anything more than a cursory sketch of short related biographies, so arranged as to be a ready reference volume—another "Who's Who." The tone of Edwin M. Bacon's "The Boy's Drake" (Scribner) is to be recommended. It is a full biographical account based on an authentic record, and containing copious quotations; there are pictures, maps, and reproductions of title pages. Already there have been issued in this series "The Boy's Hakluyt" and "The Boy's Catlin." Harvey F. B. Wheeler has prepared an adequate volume entitled "The Boy's Napoleon" (Crowell). It is well written and is full in detail. A fit companion to this is Edward Fraser's "Bellerophon" (Stokes), which traces the record of the British man-of-war on whose deck Bonaparte gave himself into custody. The book is effectively printed, and bound in an attractive cover design.

Of books retold we may name the following: "The Boy's Cuchulain" (Crowell), by Eleanor Hull; "Knighthood in Germ and Flower" (Little, Brown), by Prof. J. H. Cox; "Stories from the Chronicle of the Cid" (Holt), by Mary W. Plummer; "Stories from Dante" (Crowell), by Susan Cunnington; "Heroes of the Elizabethan Age" (Lippincott), by Edward Gilliat; "Heroes of the Polar Seas" (Lippincott), by J. Kennedy Maclean; "Tales from the Alhambra" (Houghton), by Josephine Brower; "Stories from Shakespeare" (Crowell), by Thomas Carter; "Old Greek Nature Stories (Crowell), by F. A. Farrar, and "The Children's Plutarch" (Harper), by F. J. Gould.

It is almost impossible to give any adequate idea of the field of fiction for children. About 30 per cent. of the deluge consists of members of the series class, and these we pass by, warning the Christmas buyer. We have extracted from the mass a few volumes deserving of special attention. For young and old alike, we know of no more refreshing story than Inez Haynes Gillmore's "Phœbe and Ernest" (Holt), which tells in graphic manner the trials of a hero and heroine during a transformation age. Norman Duncan's "Billy Topsail & Company" (Revell) contains all the splendid dash of a former volume. H. H. Jackson's "Nelly's Silver Mine" (Little, Brown) is a story of Colorado, worthy of the new form given it. Among the college stories, none is more distinctive than Katharine Holland Brown's "Philippa at Halcyon" (Scribner). It may be overcharged with a certain moral tone, but it abounds in fun and good cheer. John Masefield's "Martin Hyde: The Duke's Messenger" (Little, Brown), a story of the Pretender, loses slightly by its first person narrative, but it has excitement in it, and a deal of movement, besides good writing. The same criticism applies to Gulielma Zollinger's "The Rout of the Foreigner" (McClurg). No more charming story has reached us for a long time than Charles Major's "The Little King" (Macmillan), which tells of the varied adventures of the child Louis XIV and Sweet Mam'selle. The illustrations are striking. Lieut.-Com. Yates Stirling, jr., U. S. N., is the author of many volumes, in a series of which "A U. S. Midshipman in the Philippines" (Penn) is one. The same may be said of Commander E. L. Beach's "Midshipman Ralph Osborn at Sea" (Wilde). In passing we must note Rupert Hughes's "The Lakerim Cruise" (Century), Annie Fellows Johnston's "Mary Ware in Texas" (Page), "Patty's Success," by Carolyn Wells (Dodd, Mead), and Margaret Sidney's "A Little Maid of Boston Town" (Lothrop, Lee). Dudley and Stratemeyer are also well represented.

Notes.

The two volumes which will supplement the text of "The Cambridge Modern History" will include an historical introduction, an atlas properly following the order of the narrative, and in the second volume an index consisting of genealogical tables, lists, and a general index.

A facsimile reproduction of the manuscript of the "Canterbury Tales," which is in the possession of the Earl of Ellesmere, will be published by the Manchester University Press.

John Adams Thayer's "Astir," which appeared in France last June simultaneously with its publication here, is to be brought out in London early in 1911, by T. Werner Laurie, with the title "Getting On: The Confessions of a Publisher."

A. C. McClurg & Co. announce for the autumn of 1911 a translation of Vicente Elasco Ibáñez's story of bull fighting, "Sangre y Arena," by Frances Douglas (Mrs. Charles F. Lummis).

At a meeting of the American Academy of Arts and Letters, which was held at the New Theatre on Thursday and Friday of last week, it was announced that the gold medal of the Institute of Arts and Letters was this year awarded to James Ford Rhodes, the historian.

Dr. William Sadler will publish with A. C. McClurg & Co. "The Physiology of Faith and Fear." The same house has made arrangements with Charles Carver for dramatizations of the following books: Randall Parrish's "My Lady of the South" and "Bob Hampton of Placer"; Charles E. Walk's "The Silver Blade," and Will Lillibridge's "Ben Blair."

Henry Frowde announces for immediate publication an addition to the Church Art in England Series, viz., "Wood Carving in English Churches," by Francis Bond, which has much to say about stall and tabernacle work, bishops' thrones, and chancel chairs; there will be 124 illustrations. Another volume, "Wood Carvings," is being written by P. M. Johnston, which will deal with chests, almeries, organ cases, doors, and collecting boxes.

Mexico, Cuba, Argentina, Colombia, Venezuela, and Spain are represented in "Las Mejores Poesias Liricas de la Lengua Castellana," edited by Prof. E. C. Hills of Colorado College and Dr. S. C. Morley, which Holt & Co. are issuing shortly.

Holt & Co. also promise "Das Märchen von Heute," edited with notes and vocabulary by M. C. Stewart (which includes besides the title story "Der Elfen Geheimnis" and "Der Glückspitz"), and "The Silver Thread and Other Folk Plays for Young People."

The Appletons will have ready February 1 "The American Year Book," which undertakes to cover the history of the year 1910 entire and to serve as a convenient handbook.

A new, large paper edition of Wordsworth's complete poetical writings, in ten volumes, with a series of photogravures, is announced by Houghton Mifflin for appearance this month.

The list of books to be published in January by Frederick A. Stokes Co. includes:

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"Sydney Carteret, Rancher," by Harold Bindloss; "Woman and Marriage," by Margaret Stephens; "Garden Flowers in Colors: Orchids, Daffodils"; "The Book of Cupid, Anthology," by Henry Newboldt, and "Favorite Operas from Mozart to Mascagni," by Cuthbert Hadden.

A ninth volume in the Beaumont and Fletcher of the Cambridge English Classics (Putnam) adds five plays: The Sea-Voyage, Wit at Several Weapons, The Fair Maid of the Inn, Cupid's Revenge, and the Two Noble Kinsmen. With the tenth volume the labors of the editor, A. R. Waller, will be ended.

The "Greek Studies" has been added to Macmillan's new Library Edition of Pater. Only one more volume is needed to complete the set.

A committee of the Harvard Alumni Association, with C. Chester Lane as chairman, has compiled a "Harvard University Directory," which is published by the University Press. In a stout volume of nearly 1,300 pages, the names are listed, amounting to 32,188, of all living men who have at any time been students of the university. For 1,656 of these men no addresses could be found; for the others, the address and degrees, with dates, are given. Various statistical tables at the end of the volume increase its usefulness.

That this year, the centenary of Mrs. Gaskell's birth, would not pass without the reissuing of one or two of her novels, was inevitable from the publisher's point of view, and was a pleasant thought to that growing body of readers to whom her work singularly appeals. Bell & Sons of London have set forth "Sylvia's Lovers" in a rather handsome edition, with colored illustrations by M. V. Wheelhouse. The preface, by Thomas Seccombe, contains a very readable life, and undertakes to define Mrs. Gaskell's position in English fiction.

If you ask for the normal type of English novel in the highest degree of perfection to which it ever attained, I should certainly be inclined to say, take "Mary Barton," "North and South," "Sylvia's Lovers," and "Wives and Daughters." Not one of them altogether or entirely attains to the perfection of which Mrs. Gaskell herself was capable. But they fully and adequately reveal her power, and likewise her intention of subordinating herself in some degree to a form of the potentialities and limitations of which, alike, it seems to me, she had an intuition surpassing the utmost efforts of any of her greater contemporaries.

"Wives and Daughters" is issued by Henry Frowde, as an addition to the series of "World's Classics." There are a few pages of introduction by Clement Shorter.

The importance of Boston in the history and culture of the country makes M. A. De Wolfe Howe's "Boston Common, Scenes from Four Centuries," which is issued by the Riverside Press, Cambridge, a book of more than local interest. Old drawings, plans, and maps, and modern photographs present the city from a very primitive stage down to the present day; town records carry the history back to the very beginning. We read of the year 1646:

That there shall be kept on the Common bye the Inhabitants of the Towne but 70 milch Kine; . . . that there shalbe no dry cattell, younge Cattell, or horse shalbe free to goe on the Common this year; but on horse for Elder Oliver; . . . that if any desire to kep sheep, hee may kep foure sheep in liew of a Cow.

How persistently the Common has been the centre of public life in Boston is revealed by this book clearly enough. Present residents will look with special curiosity at a plan of the streets made by Capt. John Bonner in 1722, whereon we note that Treamount Street runs into Common Street.

"The Oxford Book of Italian Verse" (Clarendon Press) contains three hundred and forty-five lyrics, from the thirteenth century to the nineteenth century, chosen by St. John Lucas. About one hundred writers are represented by significant poems, and in general the selections are judiciously made. No reader who is familiar with Italian literature will, naturally, agree in every case with the editor's judgment. For instance, among the ten poems quoted from Carducci we miss the famous "T' amo, o pio bove," which is often spoken of as the finest sonnet of the nineteenth century. As no living poets are included, Carducci brings the collection to a close. In an introductory sketch Mr. Lucas gives a spirited account of the historical development of poetry in Italy. The opinions expressed are those generally accepted; the different poets are neatly, if sometimes rather too definitely, classified; and withal the editor's enthusiasm is persuasive. There is no bibliography, except for the occasional mention of a title in the notes, along with the extremely concise biographies. A few of the historical allusions and fewer still of the difficult words are explained. Sometimes the information given is exceedingly scanty, as in this note on Vittorelli (a poet, by the way, whose fame is just now having something of a revival in Italy): "Born at Bassano. Held a public appointment at Venice. Byron liked his poetry. ["Rime," Venezia, 1851.]" Similarly, the notary of Lentino, properly called either Giacomo or Jacepo, but here dubbed Giacopo, is dismissed as "another of the Sicilian group of poets." But if the annotation is limited in extent and in usefulness, as a collection of verse this Oxford Book is a delight to the eye and to the mind. Uniform in style and method with the English and French anthologies from the same press, this new volume will be even more welcome to lovers of poetry, owing to the lack of competitors in its special field.

Walter Tyndale's "Japan and the Japanese" (Macmillan), which comes to us arrayed both inwardly and outwardly in festal apparel, is the work of an English painter, who wisely sketched and colored in the rainy and misty climate of Japan only when he could secure the right light, atmosphere, and appropriate natural conditions. Hence, the twenty-two full-page illustrations in color have a home-like look to an old resident in the sunny isles of the cherry blossom. To others the tints may seem extravagant. Mr. Tyndale's landscape is ever a thoroughly human one, and probably no illustrated book thus far produced shows more significantly the effect of natural beauty on fine manners. Praiseworthy is Mr. Tyndale's desire to paint the blooms less directly associated with Japan, like the oleander and the pomegranate; though the standard features of the vegetable world and of art and architecture are not neglected. The perspective is unusually good. The author's text is light, pleasing, and accurately descriptive of the daily ways and temperament of the Japanese. He exposes some ridiculous notions, among others that of the mythical Chinaman in the Japanese banks, who keeps the money. There is an index.

In "Tennyson as a Student and Poet of Nature" (Macmillan), Sir Norman Lockyer and Winfred L. Lockyer have gathered together and classified all the passages from the poet's works "which deal with the scientific aspects of nature." "The highest poetry," Sir Norman observes in the preface, "should be associated with the highest knowledge. Tennyson's great achievement has been to show us that in the study of science we have one of the bases of the fullest poetry." Tennyson was a close friend of Sir Norman's, whom he often visited, and the astronomer and man of science was astonished at the poet's "minute knowledge in various fields." Sir Norman continues:

So far as my memory serves me, I was introduced to the late Lord Tennyson by Woolner about the year 1864. I was then living in Fairfax Road, West Hampstead, and I had erected my six-inch Cooke equatorial in the garden. I soon found that he was an enthusiastic astronomer, and that few points in the descriptive part of the subject had escaped him. He was therefore often in the observatory. Some of his remarks still linger fresh in my memory. One night when the moon's terminator swept across the broken ground round Tycho, he said: "What a splendid Hell that would make." Again, after showing him the clusters in Hercules and Perseus, he remarked musingly: "I cannot think much of the county families after that." In 1866 my wife was translating Guillemin's "Le Ciel" and I was editing and considerably expanding it; he read many of the proof sheets, and indeed suggested the title of the English edition, "The Heavens."

Of Tennyson's conception of the cosmogony, Sir Norman writes:

In Tennyson we find the complete separation of Science from Dogmatic Theology thus foreshadowed by Milton, finally achieved . . . The modern *Systema Mundi* which Tennyson dwells on over and over again is dominated by

Astronomy and Geology, terrible Muses.

In "The Beaux and the Dandies" (Lane), Clare Jerrold has collected for those whose curiosity runs after such matters a fair-sized volume of anecdotes of Nash, Brummel, D'Orsay, and their courts. The beaux for whom Mr. Jerrold has a soft heart really began with the Restoration, when Charles II drew a crowd of young men about him; but they flowered in later reigns. Some of the anecdotes which the author has got together are excellent for their humor or wit, but there is much that might have been omitted. He recalls a story of the heartless Sheridan, who was at Bath, under Beau Nash. Meeting, after a long absence, one Major Brereton, who was noted for his high play at gambling, Sheridan asked: "How are you, major, how have you been going on of late?" "I have had a great misfortune since last we met," was the reply. "I have lost Mrs. Brereton." "Aye," answered Sheridan. "How did you lose her, at hazard or at quinze?" A number of George Selwyn's stories are given, and altogether it is almost as much a book of wits as of beaux.

"Gambetta's Life and Letters" (Appleton), an authorized translation by V. M. Montagu of M. Gheusi's "Gambetta par Gambetta," published in Paris in 1909, is, as the French title shows more clearly than

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the English, composed almost entirely of Gambetta's own writings, principally letters, collected together as a sort of posthumous *Apologia*. The chief value and interest of the book lie in its refutation of certain stories that have been diligently circulated about Gambetta. The first is the famous and infamous tale that Gambetta madly blinded himself in the right eye because his father would not take him away from the little seminary at Cahors, to which the boy had taken a violent dislike because it was run by priests. The second story is yet more dramatic—that Mme. Léonie Léon ruined Gambetta's life and then, when he failed to carry out a *coup d'état* on his own account, murdered him for the sake of another lover. These stories, to the regret of all lovers of scandal, M. Gheusi refutes once and for all. It is to be hoped that they will not be resurrected again. Gambetta brought himself into public notice first in November, 1868, when he made his famous speech in the Procès Baudin. In vain did the President try to stop his eloquence: he refused to stop speaking. His words were a veritable flood, and the reporters, "after breaking their pencils in the effort to follow him," as his biographer enthusiastically relates, sat rapt in admiration of his overwhelming eloquence. He was busy in the courts defending revolutionary and radical leaders from the time of that speech to October, 1869, when he was elected a Deputy to Parliament. There he at once gained a commanding position through his eloquence and extraordinary activity. M. Gheusi deals somewhat too gently with the amatory passages in Gambetta's highly irregular life, and makes too sympathetic a scene out of a death that was caused in great part by irregular living at the time when Gambetta was at the summit of his career. Still, even to the unsympathetic reader, the letters in this volume will seem more than sad. There is a vein of tragedy running through them all. The fearful struggles the man went through against poverty and ill health, and his consummate bravery, do much to eradicate the unsavory taste of his life in other respects. And there is a touch of fineness in the letter of his father, who, when asked that his son's body might be sent to Paris for burial, replied: "You had him when he was alive; now that he is dead, worn out by your politics, I wish to have him. He shall rest in the cemetery at Nice, whither his mother has preceded him."

In "The Qualities of Men" (Houghton Mifflin Company) Joseph Jastrow presents in popular form the results of an extended study soon to be published with the title of "Character and Temperament." Dr. Jastrow emphasizes throughout innate sensibility as chief motive of right action. Men differ more in their sensibilities than in their logical capacity. Four general grades of sensibility are distinguished, the Poietic, Kinetic (executive), Dull, and Base. In the case of Poietic man, the adjustment of individual sensibility to social convention is necessarily a very complicated one. Indeed, the success of the adjustment is in direct ratio to its elaborateness. Of simple lives and utopias Dr. Jastrow is no friend. On the practical side the book is largely a plea that our democracy should make larger use of the man of imagination. Our danger, he finds is in over-exaltation of the kinetic type; and in resentment of spiritual superiority. In many ways this book confirms independently the sociological views expressed by George Bourne in "The Ascending Effort" (reviewed in the *Nation* August 11). Both critics, by emphasizing the value of sensibility, approach the pragmatic position, and both by insisting on the validity of remoter ideals, evade this fashionable classification. Dr. Jastrow's manner is robust and interesting, but possibly by reason of insistent cleverness of phrase a little difficult. One could wish the teaching taken up by one who had the public ear. This little book whets one's appetite for the larger study of which it is a forerunner.

From Doubleday, Page & Co. we have an American edition of "Mountain Adventures at Home and Abroad," by George D. Abraham, well known to readers of mountain-climbing literature as author of "The Complete Mountaineer," and as an enthusiastic member of various organizations of the climbing fraternity in England and on the Continent. If the Englishman is subject to some reproach for seeking his pleasure in going out and killing something, it must be admitted as an offset that going out and getting killed is just as constant an element in his recreation. The disasters incidentally recorded make Mr. Abraham's volume rather grewsome in parts, though it must be said to his credit that he uses these stories, not to feed a morbid interest in the sensational, but to counsel such sane methods of climbing as will eliminate the large proportion of really avoidable accidents and free an exhilarating and ennobling recreation from undeserved reproach. Bits of Virgil, Byron, and various other poets give to this volume a certain air of literary cultivation often missing in current books of adventure, though one cannot accuse the author of reaching the level which he alleges against the late Sir Leslie Stephen, whose account of an ascent of the Schreckhorn, in 1861, "reaches such heights of literary excellence that nobody since has been able to identify the route taken." Old accounts of the distressing physical effects of ascent to high altitudes lead the author to the conclusion that the human race is gradually improving in its capacity to endure the rarified atmosphere of high levels, and that, so far as this difficulty is concerned, the highest Himalayan summits may yet be conquered. The volume is provided with a brief glossary of the technical terms employed in the text, and a fairly complete index.

Thomas Okey is an industrious bookmaker, who has turned his hand to many themes. His "Venice and its Story" (Dutton) is a combination of history, guide-book, and art-manual. The historical sketch is mainly an epitome of Horatio Brown's larger work, written with an eye on the picturesque or dramatic episodes. One misses, however, the essential—the clear tracing of evolution in the life of a people that extended over eleven centuries. Mr. Okey's remarks on the painters, sculptors, and architects are of little value. There are pen-and-ink and several colored illustrations, which give the book a holiday air.

"A Book of the Black Forest" (Dutton), as we are told in the prefatory note, "does not pretend to say everything there is to say about the Black Forest." But it very nearly does it. Section after section is taken up by the author, C. E. Hughes, and we get a description of the scenery, of the towns, industries, and inns, with a spice of legend that helps to make it readable. Mr. Hughes spent several holidays in the forest, and he must have taken notes with a certain plodding fidelity that is perhaps too well reflected in his clearly-printed pages. In short, the utilitarian object of the book makes it seem just a little too uninspired. But it is assuredly full of information for the traveller, it contains two good maps and above twenty illustrations by the author.

Of all the great natural spectacles within the borders of the United States, the Grand Cañon of the Colorado River of the West, in Arizona, probably is the greatest. It shows the world in the making. Including the Marble Cañon division this chasm is 283 miles long as the river runs, with an average depth of some 4,000 feet, and a width across the top ranging up to twelve or fifteen miles. It must be studied physiographically and historically to be understood, and George Wharton James has done well to present in compact and attractive form this guide-book ("The Grand Canyon of Arizona"; Little, Brown), which contains a large amount of necessary information, and is easy to carry. There are excellent photographs in half-tone, and the text is lucid and comprehensive. The tourist who wishes to approach the wonderful scene in a state of preparation should first read this book.

The October number of the *American Journal of International Law*, just issued, opens with Paul S. Reinsch's comprehensive paper on the Fourth International Conference of American Republics—a body which, he declares, has assumed a well-defined and dignified position among great international organizations. This Fourth Conference met at Buenos Ayres on July 12, under the active presidency of Dr. Bermejo, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Argentina. It was understood beforehand that certain aspects of the general welfare of the Continent were to be the subject of the Conference. Technical reasons for denying admission of representatives were brushed aside; delegates from all the republics were welcomed, even those of Nicaragua, whose dominant *de facto* government had not been universally recognized. The organization of the Pan-American Union was a subject of detailed and careful consideration in committee, and the tentative draft of a treaty was adopted by the general body. No action was taken looking to any essential modification of the Union's functions, which, however, were strongly emphasized. The Union has intervened in unifying consular documents, in improving custom-house regulation and sanitary police, in promoting the construction of the Pan-American Railway, in the improvement and promotion of steamship service, the interchange of university professorships, the strengthening of international confidence. Samuel B. Crandall discusses the law as applied to the Spanish treaty claims commission. Lester H. Woolsey considers early cases on the doctrine of continuous voyages—a subject with which the Supreme Court dealt after 1861. He shows that that court, in decid-

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ing cases involving this doctrine, simply applied what had been held by British courts half a century before.

Two papers touch Chinese questions: one, by E. T. Williams, on the abolition of slavery in the Empire—noting that recently a rescript has been promulgated declaring that the institution is abolished, and almost procuring that end, though the Manchus seem not to have been brought within its terms as completely as have the Chinese proper; the second, by William R. Manning, on China and the Powers since the Boxer Movement. This is an elaborate narrative of international events occurring since 1899 that have affected the Empire. In most of them China has herself directly participated, including entry into arrangements with Russia and Japan touching Manchurian railways. She has relinquished much. In fact, she has virtually withdrawn from Manchuria, as far as railways are concerned. The Japanese press is urging that suzerainty in Manchuria be assumed; the Japanese treat the country as a conquered one, her railway guards being found at great distances from the railway, and interfering in matters outside of their province. But since the Treaty of Portsmouth Mr. Manning thinks that China has won courage to resist; *e. g.*, when in 1908 Russia asserted exclusive jurisdiction at Harbin and elsewhere in the railway zone over both Chinese and foreigners, China interposed; was supported by the United States consul, and in May, 1909, Chinese sovereignty there was recognized by Russia, and the jurisdiction divided. The Supplement with this number presents copies of twelve treaties and conventions affecting China, and correspondence on one international matter affecting her. Important also is the complete award, covering forty pages, of the Arbitrators in the North Atlantic Coast Fisheries case between Great Britain and the United States, with the reasoning *in extenso* on the various points decided.

The Rev. George Wolfe Shinn, who for thirty-one years was rector of Grace Church, Newton, Mass., and lately its rector emeritus, died last week, at the age of seventy-one. He was the author of a "Manual of the Prayer Book," and edited for twenty-five years the Whittaker Series of Sunday School Instruction.

Dr. Emil Reich, author and lecturer on history, died last Sunday. He was born at Eperjes, Hungary, in 1854, and was educated at Eperjes, Kassa, Prague, Budapest, and Vienna University. Up to his thirtieth year he studied almost exclusively in libraries. Finding books unsatisfactory for a real comprehension of history, he determined to travel extensively in order to complement the study of books with the study of realities. He spent five years in the United States, four in France, and about twelve in England, where he lectured frequently at Oxford, Cambridge, and London Universities. The British government employed him to assist in the preparation of the Venezuela boundary case. Among his publications were: "History of Civilization," "Græco-Roman Institutions" (Oxford Lectures); "Hungarian Literature," "Atlas of English History," "Handbook of Geography," chiefly physiographic and mathematical; "General History," "Foundations of Modern Europe," "Success Among Nations," "The Foreigner in History," "Select Documents Illustrating Mediæval and Modern History," "Atlas of Ancient History," "Atlas of Modern History," "Principal Characters from the Great Philosophers," "The Fundamental Principles of Evidence," "Imperialism," "The Failure of the Higher Criticism of the Bible," "Plato as an Introduction to Modern Life," and "Success in Life."

Gen. Henry Edwin Tremain, a distinguished veteran of the civil war and the author of "Last Hours of Sheridan's Cavalry," "Two Days of War," and "Sectionalism Unmasked," died last week, at the age of seventy. He was a member of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, and of the American Authors' Society.

The death is reported, in his seventy-third year, of Prof. Robert Flint, D.D., formerly professor of moral philosophy at the University of Edinburgh. Of his many writings may be mentioned: "Philosophy of History in Europe," "Historical Philosophy in France," and "Theism."

Science.

Reptiles of the World. By Raymond L. Ditmars, Curator of Reptiles in the New York Zoölogical Park. With a frontispiece in color and nearly 200 illustrations, from photographs taken by the author. New York: Sturgis & Walton Co. $5 net.

In this volume—needlessly large from the thick paper of the text—there are 185 (not several hundred as claimed on p. v) admirable pictures of living species of turtles, crocodilians, lizards, and snakes from all parts of the world. The nearly exterminated Tuatara of New Zealand, representing the otherwise extinct group, Rhynchocephalia, is briefly discussed in the Introduction; it might well have replaced the gaudy but less instructive Rhinoceros Viper of the frontispiece. Excepting about twenty pages of lists of genera which are somewhat out of place in a popular treatise, the text comprises descriptions of selected forms, directions for their housing and food, and accounts of their habits, often based upon the author's personal observations; some of these are thrilling and some amusing, for example, that related on pp. 266-267. Figures and descriptions of structure are few, and the soft parts are nearly ignored; this is fortunate, perhaps, for the general reader, if we judge from the treatment of a single case: the easily recognized difference between alligators and crocodiles, viz., the pit in the upper jaw for the reception of the fourth lower tooth in the former, which becomes a notch in the latter, might have been made clear by a simple diagram and a few words, but is clumsily treated on three separate pages.

Actual errors and important omissions are commendably few. There is no picture of a gavial. The "flying dragon" should have been shown also in the folded condition. On p. 75 the discovery of the presence of a true crocodile in Florida is credited to Director Hornaday in 1875, whereas it was made in 1869 by Jeffries Wyman. The comprehensive work of Boulenger of the British Museum is properly referred to; but there is no mention of the numerous publications of Stejneger of the United States National Museum; neither is it hinted that a monograph of the turtles of North America was published by the elder Agassiz nineteen years before Mr. Ditmars was born. There are occasional attempts at "fine writing" which will merely befog the reader. Indeed, beginning with the subtitle, where "Eastern and Western Hemispheres" would imply the existence of others, there is hardly a paragraph that might not be improved. But these faults are trivial compared with the lack of coördination between the illustrations and the text, for which the publishers are equally to blame. With two or three exceptions, the forms shown in the plates are not described in the contiguous pages; the plates bear no reference to the appropriate pages, which may be far distant; the text lacks all reference to the plates, and the index refers to the text alone. Comparable defects in a mathematical or classical treatise intended for beginning students and general readers would bar it from publication.

The irony of selecting such a title as "Orchids for Everyone" (by Charles H. Curtis. New York: Dutton) for a work on the most fashionable and costly decorative plants is merely apparent. The title must be read between the lines. 'It means orchids for those who have a few extra hours each week and a little space in a greenhouse. The author was formerly keeper of the orchid collection at the Royal Gardens, Kew, where there can always be found an immense number of species under observation, and where there is a fair percentage of the hybrids and variants prized in cultivation. Consequently, Mr. Curtis can speak with a good degree of authority and give good counsel. The treatise itself belongs to the type of garden books of which we have lately had so many; a small quarto or very large octavo in size, with heavy paper and broad margins, a true *édition de luxe*. The colored illustrations are of unequal merit; some of them being almost exact reproductions of the subjects in hue and brilliancy, while some of the others are below any reasonable standard. The best are exceedingly attractive and satisfy the eye fully, exhibiting the features which have long rendered this order of plants the favorites of wealthy amateurs. Here one can see the slight differences in shape and color which command fabulous prices, and which are likely to keep their place until they are, in their turn, supplanted by successful rivals. We can heartily commend this work for its wise advice and abundant information.

The noted French physician, Henri Huchard, who was an officer of the Legion of Honor and a member of Academy of Medicine at Paris, died last Sunday, at the age of sixty-six. He founded the

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Journal Médical des Praticiens, and wrote the following books: "Traité des névroses"; "Traité clinique des maladies du cœur et de l'aorte"; "Consultations médicales," in four volumes, and "Les Maladies du cœur et leur traitement."

The death is announced from London of Mrs. French Sheldon, M. D. She was born in this country, but later married and settled in England. Mrs. Sheldon made three journeys around the world in the interest of ethnological research. In addition to her scientific concerns, she wrote on a wide range of topics, and translated extensively, her rendering of "Salammbô" having been placed by the French government in Flaubert's tomb at Rouen.

Prof. Cooper D. Schmidt, professor of mathematics for twenty-one years in the University of Tennessee, and dean of the university, died last week in Knoxville, aged fifty-one.

The death is announced from Boston of Dr. John Cummings Munro, ex-president of the Society of Clinical Surgery, and a member of many other surgical and medical fraternities.

Dr. John Chalmers Da Costa died last week in Philadelphia in his forty-eighth year. He ranked among the great surgeons of the country, and at the time of his death he was emeritus gynæcologist at Jefferson College, chief gynæcologist at St. Agnes's Hospital, and president of the Philadelphia Obstetrical Society. He wrote "A Manual of Modern Surgery."

James Huff Stout, a leader in educational movements in Wisconsin, died last week at his home in Menomonie. Institutions which he founded, viz., schools of manual training, domestic science, and agriculture, were later consolidated as Stout Institute.

Drama.

During the past week Sarah Bernhardt has appeared in the Globe Theatre in several characters never before acted by her in this city. In one of them, Photine, the heroine of Rostand's Biblical fantasy, "La Samaritaine," she failed to make a deep impression. The work itself, full as it is of religious aspiration, broad humanitarianism, and poetic fancy, is not suited to the theatre, where its reverential feeling is vulgarized, and much of its imaginative beauty destroyed. The part played in it by Christ—dignified, tender, and impressive, in the printed book—becomes painful on the stage, because of its inevitable insufficiency. Moreover, the legendary Photine, a dashing and reckless wanton arbitrarily converted into an evangelizing saint, is, on the boards at least, too obviously theatrical a figure to be credible or inspiring. And the manifest artificiality of Madame Bernhardt's devices to emphasize the transformation of the sinner was fatal to the creation of emotional sympathy. As usual she astonished by the variety of her expression, the aptness of her poses, and the vigor of her torrential declamation. But the character is not one in which she shines preëminently. She was much more fortunate as the pretended humpback, René, in Zamacois's delightful romantic fantasy, "Les Bouffons," well known in this city by the adaptation called "The Jesters." This is an exceedingly dainty, humorous, and imaginative work, and the part of the hero, with its oratorical opportunities and its poetic amatory appeal, calls for the exercise of some of her choicest gifts. Her delivery of the verse was marked by all her old declamatory ability, and, in the love scene of the third act, by exquisitely musical and tender modulation. The general performance by her company was exactly in the right veins of romance and humorous extravaganza.

On Monday evening Madame Bernhardt appeared as the unhappy wife and mother in Bisson's "La Femme X"—known here as "Madame X"—and completely eclipsed the memory of the local version. The play, except for its purely theatrical qualities, which are strong, has no real value, but the performance by the French company was extraordinarily good. Half a dozen members of it would be "stars" here if artistic capacity were the sole test of advancement. Madame Bernhardt made the spiritual, not the bodily, ruin of Jacqueline the main feature of her embodiment, which was marked by a psychological subtlety that raised it far above the level of common melodrama. The different phases of the woman's career were illustrated with startling passion, a most subtle portrayal of morose despair, and many delicate strokes of maternal pathos. The actress never exhibited surer instinct or more capable execution. Whether the worth of the character repaid the labor and skill bestowed upon it is another matter. M. Maxudian, M. Deneubourg, M. Tellegen, M. Canroy, and Madame Duc were all prominent in the notably fine cast.

Haddon Chambers has just completed a new play. It has been acquired by Frank Curzon and Gerald du Maurier for Wyndham's Theatre in London. It bears the title of "Passers-by," is in four acts, without any change of scene, and deals with modern London life. It is said to break fresh ground, and to stand as far apart from "Captain Swift" as from "The Tyranny of Tears."

Herbert Trench has engaged Phyllis Neilson-Terry for the new piece which will succeed his revival of "The Blue Bird" in London.

"The little French Theatre in London" is soon to be established by Vaughan Grey at the Boudoir Theatre, Kensington, in conjunction with Léo Claretie and Prof. Victor Spiers. The French tragedian, Mounet-Sully, has made a provisional promise to appear at the opening performance. Subsequent engagements include those of Galipaux and Jeanne Granier. The idea is to give three matinées and three evening representations in each week, and there will also be regular "Causeries." The staple entertainment will be comedy of a high-class order.

Josephine Preston Peabody's fine play, "The Piper," which won the prize in the recent Stratford-on-Avon competition, will be among the Christmas theatrical novelties in London. F. R. Benson has arranged with George Alexander to present it for a series of matinées in the St. James's Theatre.

L. N. Parker has been talking to an English reporter about his new Disraeli play. He said:

It is not a Disraeli play in the sense that Fauchois's "Beethoven" was a Beethoven play. So far from its being a stage version of a biography, the story is almost entirely fictitious, and the only real characters in it are those of Lord and Lady Beaconsfield. It will be found, when this play is produced, that I have taken a very great liberty with history, social and political.

Bernard Fagan, author of "The Earth," is preparing for stage presentation his friend Robert Hichens's well-known novel, "Bella Donna."

The current number of *Modern Philology* contains interesting confirmation of the theory, the joint work of Messrs. Pollard and Greg, that the following quartos of plays by or ascribed to Shakespeare were all actually printed in 1619, the earlier dates on the title-pages being forgeries: "The Whole Contention" (n. d.); "A Midsummer Night's Dream" (1600); "Sir John Oldcastle" (1600); "The Merchant of Venice" (1600); "Henry the Fifth" (1608); "King Lear" (1608); "Pericles" (1619); "The Merry Wives of Windsor" (1619); "A Yorkshire Tragedy" (1619). Mr. Pollard's discovery that these nine quartos are uniformly larger than their fellows and that they all appear together in three, and probably four, early bindings, led Mr. Greg to an examination of the watermark of the paper on which they were printed, an examination which convinced both Mr. Greg and Mr. Pollard, if not from the nature of the question all the world beside, that the paper in each case was from the same stock. This evidence Mr. Sidney Lee and others positively reject, and with Mr. Pollard's summary of the various matters in controversy in his "Shakespeare Folios and Quartos" (1909) the dispute could be terminated only by the introduction of new and determinative evidence. This W. J. Neidig in *Modern Philology* supplies by applying to the study of the printed page "a system of exact measurements not unlike the modern Bertillon system of measuring criminals." Comparing the 1600 title-page of "The Merchant of Venice," for example, with the 1619 title-page of "Pericles," he finds that the blank spaces above and below the line "Written by W. Shakespeare" and the spaces on all sides of the printer's device are of the same depth in both; and that the lines show precisely the same spacing and the same amount of quad material. Such coincidences can hardly be due to chance, nor would it be possible for a printer to duplicate an older title-page with such mathematical accuracy. A composite photograph shows that the lower halves of the two title-pages exactly correspond. The explanation offered is that the lower half was "lifted" and made to do duty for no less than seven of the nine quartos. The work of the printer in doing this is followed, step by step, leading to the conclusion that the quartos bearing dates of 1600 and 1608 were printed within a few days of those dated 1619. The investigation was carried out with the highest degree of mechanical accuracy, and the twelve half-tone plates that accompany the article are offered as the most perfect facsimiles of title-pages ever produced.

The Vienna correspondent of a London journal gives an account of "Der Junge Medardus," an historical tragedy by Arthur Schnitzler, calling it in every way the most ambitious of Schnitzler's work. It is composed of twelve more or less historical tableaux setting forth the period just preceding and including the second

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occupation of Vienna by the French in 1809, and culminating in the attempt upon Napoleon's life at Schönebrunn. With atmosphere entirely Viennese, it is a satire in the manner of Sardou; it has twelve principal characters, and lasts five hours, with only one pause of any length.

Henry Guy Carleton, the playwright, died in Hot Springs, Ark., last Saturday, aged fifty-four years. He had been producing plays since 1881. Among them are "Mennon," "Victor Durand," "The Pembertons," "The Lion's Mouth," "Ye Earlie Trouble," "Princess of Erie," "A Gilded Fool," "The Butterflies," "That Impudent Young Couple," "Ambition," "Colinette," and "Jack's Honeymoon."

Music.

PUCCINI'S NEW OPERA.

When Giacomo Puccini, who is undoubtedly the most popular of living opera composers (his income from royalties is said to approximate $50,000 a year), visited this country a few years ago, he attended a performance of "The Girl of the Golden West," by David Belasco, whose dramatic version of Luther Long's story, "Madame Butterfly," had served him as libretto for his last opera, the first American performance of which he had crossed the ocean to superintend. Although he could not understand the dialogue, he was so much impressed by the picturesque Western scenery and costumes and the romantic incidents that he decided then and there that this was the popular play he had been looking for to serve as basis for his next opera. He allowed his librettists abundant time to make their version—not an altogether easy task, in view of idioms and Western slang—and then devoted eighteen months to writing the music. Long before it was done the announcement that it would have its first performance in New York aroused great indignation among the Italians, who seemed to have forgotten that they had behaved so rudely toward "Madama Butterfly," when it was first produced in Milan, that Puccini made an immediate repetition impossible by taking away the score.

It would be difficult to imagine a more striking contrast to this fiasco of what is now the most popular of all operas than the enthusiastic reception of "The Girl of the Golden West" at its Metropolitan production last Saturday. At double the usual prices the house was crowded, and there were at least fifty recalls for Puccini, Belasco, Toscanini, and the principal singers, Caruso, Destinn, Amato, all of whom had far surpassed their previous achievements, at least from the histrionic side. The possibility of having his new work produced with such a cast, and under the magnetic direction of Toscanini, would in itself explain why Puccini preferred New York to Milan, which has no singers or conductor to match them. But there were other reasons. The management of the Metropolitan paid $5,000 extra for the privilege of being first to stage this opera. Moreover, Belasco himself had not only allowed Gatti-Casazza to copy his scenery and costumes, but had promised to coöperate as stage manager. For several weeks, while orchestral rehearsals were going on, he drilled the cast—seventeen persons in all—for hours every day until Caruso looked and acted like a real California bandit, Didur like a Wells, Fargo & Co. express agent in pursuit of him, Destinn like a genuine girl of Western romance, serving whiskey in her bar, while teaching the Bible and softening the hearts of the miners; Amato like a gambler and sheriff of Bret Harte's, Reiss like a bartender to the counter born, Bourgeois and Mattfeld like a real Indian and his squaw, De Segurola like a colored minstrel, and Missiano like a Mexican bandit, while the eight miners named Sonora, Trin, Sid, Bello, Happy, Joe, Hopper, and Larkens were impersonated with the same realism in costume and action.

The significance of the situation lies in this, that the Metropolitan Opera House had been made for the time being into something similar to what Wagner wanted his Bayreuth theatre to be—a place for the creation of traditions. With both Puccini and his high priest presiding over the rehearsals, the musical side was sure to be correctly presented, while the presence of Belasco insured realism in scenery, costumes, and action. All this made the Metropolitan performance of great interest, without regard to the intrinsic value of the opera. But as for traditions—apart from those which relate to the orchestra and the singing—it is to be feared that when "The Girl of the Golden West" is produced in Italian cities, the California miners will be converted, in the absence of Belasco, into the traditional Sicilian brigands so familiar to operagoers.

Paradoxical as it seems to say it, this may prove the salvation of Puccini's work. To be a real work of art, an opera must have music suited to the action. The action and local color in "The Girl of the Golden West" are intensely American and Californian. The music is not; it is thoroughly Italian—that is, in the modern sense of the word—and would seem less out of place around the sulphur mines of Sicily than the gold mines of the Pacific Coast. Brahms was no opera composer, yet when he wrote his "Academic Overture," at the time when he was made an honorary doctor, he instinctively did the right thing by making several popular student songs the melodic themes of his composition. When Belasco produced his Californian play he had a quartet singing "Old Dog Tray," "Camptown Races," "I Bet My Money on a Bob-Tailed Nag," and similar ditties of the day. Puccini should have woven into his score some tunes of this sort for the miners to sing. He did introduce Foster's "Dooda, dooda da," but so altered in the melodic curve that no one but an expert would recognize it. The few Indian tunes he introduced are also Indian to those only who know about them. In a word, there is in this opera hardly a trace of what can be called American from any point of view; and those who had hoped that just as Gluck and Meyerbeer, though Germans, had written real French operas, so Puccini, though an Italian, would give us a real American opera, are grievously disappointed.

Besides the desirability of local color, there was a further reason why he should have adopted American melodies in the fact that his own melodic fountain seems to have run dry. In the whole opera there is not one of those stirring, broad, sensuous melodies which have made "La Bohême," "Tosca," and "Madama Butterfly" famous. The orchestration is rich and varied and betrays great technical skill; but in this direction—the direction taken by Berlioz and Richard Strauss—operatic success does not lie. We shall be very much surprised if "La Fanciulla del West" is a success in any European country. How it will be received in Chicago and Boston we shall know in a few weeks.

Arthur Friedheim will give a recital at Mendelssohn Hall on Saturday afternoon, December 17. His programme will include the Liszt sonata (the playing of which is a revelation), Liszt's "Benediction," twelve Chopin preludes, Liszt's Ballade in B minor, Mephisto Waltz, Pesther Carnival, and a Mazurka in A flat by Chopin. Mr. Friedheim is virtually the last of the genuine pupils of Liszt, and his playing is always a delight.

Two special Wagner concerts will be given by Lillian Nordica and the New York Symphony Orchestra, Walter Damrosch conducting, in Carnegie Hall, on January 4 and 11. Mme. Nordica will sing excerpts from all the Wagner music dramas in which she has appeared, including "Die Walküre," "Siegfried," "Götterdämmerung," and "Tannhäuser." The great American prima donna seems to be in particularly good form this winter.

Max Bruch has, at the age of seventy-three, composed a new violin concerto. It will be published soon by Simrock in Berlin, and Willy Hess will have the privilege of introducing it to the world.

Nothing is more remarkable in the musical world than the increasing interest in Grieg's songs and instrumental works. They are sung and played five times as often as they were a few years ago, the musicians having discovered at last that nothing more surely brings applause. Like the music of Chopin and Schubert, Grieg's music combines popular luscious melody with harmonies that delight epicures.

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Art.

What Is Art? By John C. Van Dyke. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. $1 net.

The title of Professor Van Dyke's new book suggests a treatise on pure æsthetics; it is rather an attempt to meet certain current misconceptions. We get, Mr. Van Dyke fears, our notion of art chiefly from museum officials and dealers, and that means that we indulge both the historic and commercial fallacy. Art is neither a curiosity nor a commodity; "art is primarily a matter of doing, somewhat a matter of seeing and feeling, and perhaps not at all a matter of theme or thinking." If the dealer and the pedant have variously misled us, the modern artist also has often been faithless to the tradition of his craft. For pungent good sense commend us to the chapter on The Use of the Model, which is incidentally a quiet but scathing exposure of the literalism that afflicts modern art. A tour through a gallery might almost persuade the visitor that memory and invention had been stricken off the artistic vocabulary.

Towards the connoisseur who treasures what is rare and the Philistine who adores only what is dear, our author is impartially severe. Both are enemies of sane art appreciation. Mr. Van Dyke deprecates the creation of fanciful personalities in art. It offends him, for example, that Mr. Berenson's Amico di Sandro gets into the art histories and even "influences" artists who are there by grace of documents. It seems to us that these ingenious reconstructions stand or fall by their own credibility. If Mr. Berenson has correctly assembled the works of an unknown personality, that artist, whom we may call Amico di Sandro, or Master of the Chantilly Esther—the name not mattering—may perfectly well have influenced a contemporary. Objection lies, if at all, to the reconstruction, not to the name or imputed influence.

To feel quality is the chief business of art appreciation, and while Mr. Van Dyke may not have successfully defined quality—an almost impossible task—he sufficiently intimates how it is to be looked for. What we want is the immediate effect of the work of art itself. A connoisseur of our acquaintance asks himself on entering a gallery, What are the two finest pictures in this room? and arrives at results often contradictory to catalogues and guidebooks. Mr. Van Dyke deplores the craze for old masters and urges an intelligent patronage of our own art. Here it seems to us is some neglect of fundamentals. A really intelligent patronage of our own art might leave nine-tenths of it wholly unpatronized, while the grievance against the plutocratic collector is not that he affects Rembrandts, but that he does not love those he owns. Any kind of honest love of art as art must work for the artistic good of the country. A fine work of art, we think, is never expatriated where it finds a lover. And quite practically it has been the enlightened collectors of older art among us who were the best patrons of Whistler, Puvis, and Manet. We heartily wish that the tyranny of the dealer and art historian may be abated, and we feel deeply the insincerity of much collecting, but we are convinced that the only salvation is to eschew the bad and hold fast to the good art of whatever period.

Throughout this little book, Mr. Van Dyke shows his familiar qualities of literary distinction and clear thinking. It will do good wherever it is read. Whether a prophet of the beautiful who consents neither to bait with florid phrase nor yet to adopt the yawp barbaric can make himself heard in our particular desert, is quite another question.

The whole period in which Gothic architecture arose, found a completer expression than other styles have ever attained, reached its limit of possible development, and then suddenly declined, was less than four centuries. To study its essential features we need seek no example outside the narrow geographical limits of the old Royal Domain, whose structures have been very happily described in "Cathedrals and Cloisters of the Isle de France," by Elise Whitlock Rose, with illustrations from original photographs by Vida Hunt Francis (2 vols., Putnam). All the genius of the northern French—a race whose daring imagination and undeviating adherence to direct and logical expression fitted them to measure themselves with the noblest problems of architecture—was concentrated on these buildings. In the other arts they took no such significant part. Thus they expressed a deeper religious sentiment than Europe had yet known, and demanded of common and often inferior materials a long series of constructive *tours-de-force*. In the fact that nothing was built purposelessly or fantastically lies the interest of their work. Huysmans has found from the patient examination of a single cathedral that every detail of carved stone or painted glass is to some extent a mystical exposition of the history and doctrine of the Church; Viollet-le-Duc and Choisy show that every moulding was cut in conformity with an underlying constructive idea, and even in the matter of contemporary history the stones of these churches are more truthful witnesses than the written records. The author of the present volumes has a scholarly historical knowledge, and, better still, she shows an intimate acquaintance with the buildings themselves. The work of the illustrator is in sympathy with the text. Besides the familiar general views there are many charming details of porches, chapels, and galleries.

"The Whistler Book," by Radakichi Hartmann (L. C. Page & Co.) bears an over-ambitious title, and is here and there marred by phrases more florid than exact or expressive. On the whole, it is a sympathetic and judicious criticism. It takes courage to assert the comparative emptiness of the famous "White Girl," and independence to write that technically Whistler was probably not "the best etcher of his day." In the nocturnes and lithographs our author finds the most individual and exquisite expression of Whistler's genius. The entire book is an odd combination of real perceptiveness, with extravagance of statement and allusion, but it has the virtue of readableness and enthusiasm, and often it cuts to the heart of the matter. It is carelessly printed, proper names being frequently disfigured. Monet for Manet, on page 79, and Walter Gray for Gay, on page 226, are perhaps the worst instances. There are fifty-seven illustrations, a bibliography, and a list of paintings not quite complete or up to date.

"Peasant Art in Sweden, Lapland, and Iceland" is the attractive title of the special Autumn Number of the *International Studio* (John Lane Co.). On inspection one regrets the prominence given to Swedish art, much of which seems derivitive from southern models. In silver-smithing and weaving, however, we have the true primitive note. Whatever is given from Lapland and Iceland seems pure gold. Especially the bed panels of Iceland preserve a robust tradition running back to the so-called dark ages. Beside the illustration after peasant objects there are photographs and color-prints after paintings depicting the houses and the peasants themselves, in all six hundred cuts.

The Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts announces its one hundred and sixth annual exhibition, which will open to the public Sunday, February 5, and close Sunday, March 26. The exhibition will consist of original works by American artists in oil painting and sculpture, which have not before been publicly shown in Philadelphia. All works intended for exhibition must be entered upon regular entry cards, which must be properly filled out and sent to the academy by Monday, January 2. The jury of selection consists of the following members: Painting—Willard L. Metcalf, chairman; George Bellows, Adolphe Borie, Joseph De Camp, Daniel Garber, Walter MacEwan, Carl Newman, De Witt Parshall, Henry J. Thouron, and J. Alden Weir. Sculpture—Hermon A. MacNeil, Bela L. Pratt, and John M. Bateman. The hanging committee is composed of Willard L. Metcalf, Charles Grafly, and Adolphe Borie. The academy's committee on exhibition has as chairman Clement B. Newbold.

Richard La Barre Goodwin, the landscape painter, died at Orange, N. J., last Saturday, at the age of seventy years.

From Paris comes news of the death of the landscape painter Jean Emile Renié.

The death is announced from Berlin of the artist Ludwig Knaus, who, in the seventies of the last century, was considered one of the great *genre* painters of the world. At the Metropolitan Museum are to be found his Repose in Egypt of the Holy Family, The Old Woman and Cats, the female figure of Peace, and a Girl's Head. Other important pictures by him are Funeral in a Hesse Village, His Excellency Travelling, The Village Musician, The Inn, The Refractory Model, Solomon's Wisdom, and Peep Behind the Scenes. He was born in Wiesbaden in

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1829, and from 1874 to 1884 was professor at the Berlin Academy.

Finance.

WALL STREET AND WASHINGTON.

That financial markets should have excited themselves, both before and after Mr. Taft's message to Congress, over what the President would advise regarding this session's company legislation, was in reality quite needless. The Stock Exchange (which may have got a peep at advance sheets of the message) professed cheerful expectation that the President would advise against further restrictive laws as to corporations. The expectation was fulfilled, to the extent that Mr. Taft declared his opinion that "the existing legislation with reference to the regulation of corporations and the restraint of their business has reached a point where we can stop for a while and witness the effect of the vigorous execution of the laws on the statute books." Since, however, the President not only assumed that existing laws would be enforced, but also declared that he should not renew his former proposals to authorize railway "pools" for establishing joint rates, the message, from Wall Street's point of view, contained bitter as well as sweet. When it was published in full, the stock market lost all its advance of the two preceding days.

But the concern of the market, over either sort of recommendation, was superfluous. It is true that laws of the first importance have on rare occasions been enacted in the final three months' session of an expiring Congress—even after an "opposition landslide" in November. The passing of the Specie Resumption Act in 1875 is a notable case in point. But in 1875 the dominant party, though defeated at the polls, still had a workable majority of 100, good until March 4. The dominant party of to-day has less than half that majority, and such majority as it has is not workable, in the face of the schism in the party.

The points of interest which were lacking in the President's message were to a certain extent provided in the Department reports. One introduced the remarks of the Secretary of Agriculture, repeating enthusiastically the Secretary's well-known views on the crops of 1910. We have produced this year, he points out, farm products "with a value reaching $8,926,000,000," which "is larger than that of 1909 by $305,000,000," and is a sum the meaning of which "nothing short of omniscience can grasp." The value of the corn crop, in Mr. Wilson's language, "belongs to the stories of magic"; the value of the cotton crop is 13 per cent above the five-year average.

All this is reassuring, but possibly just a little overdrawn. When a statistician deals with the actual size of successive crops, with their effect on railway traffic, on the country's export trade, on the cost of living in the case of grain and on activity at the mills in the case of cotton—he stands on firm ground. But when he begins to deal with values—especially with values obtained through multiplying total bales or bushels by the market price on a single stated day—he sometimes arrives at strange results. Such calculations may not belong to the stories of magic, but they are very likely to take their place in the realm of sleight-of-hand, or in the field of expert accountants retained to prove a case. Our crops of 1910, all things considered, are a mainstay of the financial situation; but the wheat crop is far more useful a contribution to prosperity because wheat prices have fallen, and the cotton crop very much less so because cotton sells at so exorbitant a figure. Mr. Wilson's line of argument lurches perceptibly over into that inverted political economy which hails with delight a deficient crop with excessive prices, and has serious doubts over a "bumper yield" sold at values more inviting to consumers.

The Secretary of the Treasury, as was to be expected, indulges in no such jugglery of figures; it is rather his conclusions which are interesting to finance. He takes up courageously the question of currency reform, and makes some really pregnant comments—as, for instance, that the present system of distributing and redistributing bank reserves is vicious, that there is no way now of suddenly increasing currency in a crisis, except through the futile and obsolescent law of 1908, and that the present bank-note system, with its requirement of government bond collateral, will not adapt itself to the fluctuating needs of trade.

But when Mr. MacVeagh approaches high economic theory in his report, he arrives at some deductions quite as novel as Mr. Wilson's. That "panics are no longer necessary and no longer respectable" is at any rate a safe assertion. No business man and no economic philosopher was ever heard to declare that a panic was needed for the general welfare, or that a run on banks, which was being chronicled in his diary, was a highly respectable event. But the Secretary's further deduction that panics are not only avoidable, but that "we can continue to have panics or we can stop having panics, exactly as we prefer," and that "it is for the government to say whether it will have panics in the future or whether it will not," calls for somewhat different comment.

A well-ordered currency and a proper centralization of financial resources would do much to mitigate the evils of those violent reactions in financial stability and financial confidence, which are partly inherent in human nature and partly, in this country, a consequence of the excessively daring use of credit by our greatest capitalists. But it would hardly bring about a financial millennium, in which fright over really alarming financial situations should be a thing of the past.

One of the strongest arguments for a Central Bank, for instance, is the prospect that it might, under wholly enlightened and independent administration, exercise over the most powerful manipulators and promoters, and over the excesses of the financial community in general, just such imperious restraint as is exercised abroad by the Banks of England and of Germany; that it might, at a moment when the strongest powers of Wall Street had overstrained bank resources to support an extravagant Stock Exchange speculation, put up the official rate of discount, not lower it, as was done in New York city, with the natural results, last October and in the same month a year ago. If a scheme for a Central Bank which, beyond any cavil, guaranteed exactly such large-minded oversight in affairs financial could be contrived and presented to the people, it would probably be accepted. But the question appears to be, can just that disinterested policy, at such times and by such an institution, be assured?

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

Allen, J. W. The Place of History in Education. Appleton.
Ballard, A. From Talk to Text. Boston: Sherman, French. $1 net.
Bennett, A. How to Live on 24 Hours a Day. Doran.
Bragdon, C. The Beautiful Necessity. Rochester, N. Y.: The Manas Press. $2 net.
Brissot, J.-P. Mémoires (1754-1793). 2 vols. Paris: Picard.
Brown, W. A. Morris Ketchum Jesup: A Character Sketch. Scribner.
Cambridge Modern History. Vol. XII, The Latest Age. Macmillan. $4 net.
Cartmell, P. M. Instinct and Intelligence. Cochrane Pub. Co.
Champneys, A. C. Irish Ecclesiastical Architecture. Macmillan. $7.50 net.
Coburn, A. L. New York (Illustrations). Foreword by H. G. Wells. Brentano. $6.
Dewhurst, F. E. The Magi in the West. Chicago: Abbey Co. 50 cents net.
Dobell, Mrs. H. Poetical Works. London: Smith, Elder.

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Easter, A. M. Songs of Sentiment and Faith. Baltimore, Md.: Eichelberger Book Co. $1.50 net.
Fœmina. L'Ame des Anglais. 2me. Paris: Bernard Grasset.
Grant, P. S. Socialism and Christianity. Brentano.
Grossmann, E. A. Practical Guide to Accurate German Pronunciation. New York: The Author. 50 cents.
Hall, S. M. Cactus and Pine: Songs of the Southwest. Boston: Sherman, French. $1.50 net.
Harris, M. H. A Thousand Years of Jewish History. New edition, revised. Bloch Pub. Co.
Hazlewood, C. W. The Garden of Gray Ledge, and other Poems. Boston: Sherman, French. $1.25 net.
Hinchman, W. S. William of Normandy: a Chronicle Play. London: Kegan Paul.
Hoek, H. How to Ski. A. Benziger. 50 cents.
Hough, E. The Singing Mouse Stories. Indianapolis; Bobbs-Merrill.
Howe, J. W. At Sunset. Boston: Houghton Mifflin. $1.25 net.
Hyde, J. D. The Feet of the Years. Metropolitan Press. $1.20 net.
Irwin, W. The Teddysee. Huebsch. 75 cents net.
Jerusalem, W. Introduction to Philosophy. Trans. from the fourth edition by C. F. Sanders. Macmillan. $1.50 net.
Jordan, E. O. A Text-Book of General Bacteriology. Second ed. Philadelphia: W. B. Saunders Co. $3 net.
Kennan, K. K Income Taxation Milwaukee, Wis.: Burdick & Allen.
King, A. The Romance of a Monk. Metropolitan Press. $1.20 net.
Lake Champlain Tercentenary Commission Report. Montpelier, Vt.: The Commission.
Little Recreations for the Piano. Boston: Ditson. 50 cents.
MacDonald, H. L. and G. W. New Testament Alphabet in Rhyme for Little People. James Potts & Co. $1.,
McFarland, J. Biology: General and Medical. Philadelphia: W. B. Saunders Co. $1.75 net.
Marion, M. Les Impôts Directs sous l'Ancien Régime. Paris: Edouard Cornély.
Meredith, G. Vol. XXI: Farina, General Ople, Tale of Chloe. Vol. XXII: House on the Beach, Gentleman of Fifty, Sentimentalists. Scribner. $2 each, subscription.
Montgomery, E. The Revelation of Present Experience. Boston: Sherman, French. 80 cents net.
Morris, R. T. Dawn of the Fourth Era in Surgery. Phila.: W. B. Saunders Co. $1.25 net.
Opp-Dyke, O. The Lure of Life. Boston: Sherman, French. $1 net.
Oxford Book of Ballads. Chosen and edited by A. Quiller-Couch. Frowde.
Parting, H. The Sowing of Swords. Neale Pub. Co. $1.50 net.
Pellissier, G. Anthologie du Théatre Français (Prose et Vers). Lemcke & Buechner. $1.20 net.
Political History of England. Vol. VI, 1547-1603, by A. F. Pollard. Longmans. $2.60 net.
Polley, J. B. Hood's Texas Brigade. Neale Pub. Co. $3.50 net.
Pratt, G. T. The Bainbridge Mystery. Boston: Sherman, French. $1.20 net.
Reboux, P., and Muller, C. A la Manière de Paris. Paris: Bernard Grasset.
Rickert, E. Ancient English Christmas Carols collected and arranged. Duffield. $3.25 net.
Robertson, D. M. A History of the French Academy. Dillingham. $3 net.
Santleben, A. A Texas Pioneer. Neale Pub. Co. $2 net.
Schlesinger, A. The Labor Amendment Our Next Great Job. New York Medical Book Co. $1.50.
Scollard, C. The Vicar of the Marches. Boston: Sherman, French. $1.20 net.
Scott, T. The Christmas Treasury of Song and Verse. Baker & Taylor. $1.25 net.
Shakespeare's Midsummer Night's Dream. New Hudson Edition. Boston: Ginn. 50 cents.
Stafford, J. R. When Cattle Kingdom Fell. Dodge. $1.25 net.
Steiner, R. Theosophy. Trans. from the third German edition. Chicago: Rand, McNally.
Strauss, R. Forty Songs (High Voice). Edited by James Huneker. Boston: Ditson.
Stuart, R. M. The Unlived Life of Little Mary Ellen. Indianapolis: Bobbs-Merrill.
Sutherland, H. V. Idylls of Greece. (Second Series. Desmond FitzGerald, Inc.
Tarr, R. S., and Von Engeln, O. D. A Laboratory Manual of Physical Geography. Macmillan. $1.25 net.
Traheron's Poems of Felicity. Edited from the MS. by H. I. Bell. Frowde.
Tyndale, W. Japan and the Japanese. Macmillan. $5 net.
Vaughan, T. Lumen de Lumine, or a New Magical Light. London: John M. Watkins.
Vedder, H. C. American Writers of To-day. Revised ed. Silver, Burdett. $1.50.
Wicks, M. To Mars *via* The Moon: an Astronomical Story. Philadelphia: Lippincott.
Wood, E. E. An Oberland Châlet. Wessels & Bissell. $2 net.
Zollschan, I. Das Rassenproblem. 2d edition. Vienna: Wilhelm Braumüller.
Zueblin, C. Democracy and the Overman. Huebsch. $1 net.

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